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Warsaw Pact Meeting Participants Due in Berlin

LD101102 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1025 GMT 10 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, 10 Dec 87 ADN—Participants at the meeting of leading representatives of the Warsaw Pact member-states, which is to take place in Berlin on Friday, are expected this afternoon in the GDR capital. The spokesman for the GDR Foreign Ministry, Ambassador Wolfgang Meyer, announced to the international press this morning that Gustav Husak (CSSR), Wojciech Jaruzelski (Polish PR), Todor Zhivkov (People's Republic of Bulgaria), Ioan Totu (SR of Romania) and Janos Kadar (People's Republic of Hungary) will arrive at Berlin-Schoenefeld airport from 1600 hours onwards. The spokesman added that Ioan Totu, candidate member of the PEC of the RCP Central Committee and foreign minister of the SR of Romania, is taking part in the meeting as the personal representative of Nicolae Ceausescu, who was engaged in preparations for the forthcoming regional conference of the RCP.

Marshal Viktor Kulikov, commander in chief of the joint armed forces of the Warsaw Treaty, and the foreign and defense ministers of the member states are also expected at the meeting.

Mikhail Gorbachev will arrive in Berlin on Friday at around 0930 hours, coming directly from Washington. The spokesman said the meeting will start at 1200 hours in the conference hall of the Palast Hotel in Berlin. At 1430 hours, there will be a luncheon given by Erich Honecker at the official seat of the GDR State Council for the participants at the meeting, who will leave for home from 1700 hours onwards.

Ceausescu Not To Attend

AU100954 Vienna ORF Teletext in German 0941 GMT 10 Dec 87

[Text] East Berlin—Romanian State and Party Chief Ceausescu will not be present at tomorrow's special Warsaw Pact summit in East Berlin.

The GDR Foreign Ministry spokesman today cited the fact that Ceausescu has to participate in an important RCP Congress in Bucharest as the reason. The head of state will be represented by Foreign Minister Totu.

The meeting of the East Bloc leaders will naturally focus on the results of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit.

Briefs

Electric Power Supply Cooperation

Blagoevgrad, December 8 (BTA)—A meeting of representatives of Bulgaria, Romania and the USSR on specifying of organizational and technical questions on the introduction and regular exploitation of a power supply distribution line between the three countries, started here today. A trilateral agreement was signed in 1982 for transmission of 750-kilovolt electric power between the three countries. The first part of the grid, between the USSR and Romania, was completed last year, and this year successful tests were carried out for the introduction of the Bulgarian part of the distribution line. The putting into operation of this network will be of great importance for Bulgaria's energy supply network. [Text] *[Sofia BTA in English 1615 GMT 8 Dec 87 AU]*

Albanian Language Ban in Macedonia Condemned

AU081351 Tirana ATA in English
0915 GMT 8 Dec 87

["Those Who Speak Albanian at School in Macedonia Punished"—ATA Headline]

[Text] Tirana, December 8 (ATA)—As it is reported, on the eve of the beginning of the current school year, the authorities of education in Macedonia decided to lift the teaching of the Albanian language from the middle schools and close the classes for the Albanian pupils. Based on this decision, the so-called "mixed parallels" were created with Macedonian and Albanian pupils, where the lessons are given in the Macedonian language. This decision aroused the indignation of the Albanian pupils and teachers. Regarding this, the newspaper FLAKA E VELLAZERIMIT, which is published in Skopje, wrote of late about the boycott of the school by the Albanian pupils and teachers, who have opposed the formation of the mixed parallels and the giving of lessons in the Macedonian language.

At the centres of middle education, "Nace Bugjoni" and "Pero Nakov" of Kumanova, the newspaper stresses, 9 teachers have been sacked and 26 pupils have been expelled from the school due to this opposition. Such measures have also been taken in Gostivar, in the schools "Pance Popovski" and "Cede Filipovski", as well as in other cities. The Albanian teachers and pupils in the mixed classes are not allowed to use their mother tongue even in common talks among them, informs FLAKA E VELLAZERIMIT. Thus, in "Goce Delcev" middle school of Kumanova five Albanian teachers such as Xhabir Izufi, Zekerie Dauti, Liman Avdiu, Sadulla Jakupi and Fetah Veliu have been punished with various measures "because they spoke Albanian with the Albanian pupils during the lessons in the mixed classes".

To speak Albanian at school in Macedonia, as the newspaper FIAKA E VELLAZERIMIT points out, is considered "an action from the positions of the Albanian nationalism."

The lifting of teachings in Albanian language and the forming of mixed classes in the schools of Macedonia has been critically received in Kosovo, too. Hence, the newspaper BOTA E RE, organ of the students of Pristina University, writing of the boycott of teaching in Macedonian language by the Albanian pupils in Kumanova, pointed out that "the pupils were punished to be expelled from school without registration right in any of the country's school." The newspaper described as a very disgraceful thing the fact that "only the Macedonian language be imposed in teaching and that the teaching in mother tongue (Albanian) be eliminated." The newspaper NOVA MAKEDONIJA issued recently a letter from some distinguished social and cultural working people of Pristina, through which they "express their indignation on the way, the authorities of education in Macedonia act with the Albanian pupils." The letter points out that the creation of mixed classes is a deprival of the constitutional right to follow lessons in mother tongue and a part of the extensive activity which aids at reducing the possibilities of further schooling of about 100,000 Albanian pupils of the elementary schools. The authors of the letter stress, that in a silent way, in Macedonia the discrimination of teaching in Albanian language is carried out through closing the classes where the teaching was given in Albanian language and the dispersing of the pupils in mixed classes.

Electricity Saving Measures Encouraged

AU071848 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian
3 Dec 87 p 1

[Editorial: "Let Us Train Ourselves to Save Energy"]

[Excerpt] After 11 months of labor and achievements in many sectors and branches of the economy, in the midst of the joyful, revolutionary, and optimistic atmosphere of the great festivals of 28 and 29 November, we have begun the last month of the year. It is understandable that these are days of a general mobilization and offensive for all our working collectives, with Communists to the fore, to complete this year's plan as well as possible, and to prepare for the coming year.

In this atmosphere of mobilization, which must be encouraged more and more, we must not forget for a moment to practice the strictest possible saving of electric power. This has been and remains a permanent duty for all working collectives and their managing cadres. This has always been continually emphasized, but the present situation means it must be stressed again. First of all, the proper and necessary efforts and struggle to meet the plan, and to cover and minimize deficits where they have arisen, may encourage a tendency to underestimate and "forget" the need to save energy. It is a question of continuing our efforts, but without misusing energy, that great resource we possess, so that as large a surplus as possible can be given to the people's economy for export.

Secondly, despite some slight improvements, the situation of the hydroelectric stations again dictates energy saving. The conditions we experienced this year were not favorable for the production of electricity. The prolonged drought caused by lack of rainfall in the basins of our principal rivers created deficits in the hydroelectric production of electricity. Confronting this situation called for special measures, such as the use of coal and liquid fuels in thermal power stations, and so forth. Enforcing these measures, alongside tightening the savings regime according to instructions given, created conditions for production and supply to continue at a normal rate. Many enterprises and districts, such as Tirana, Durres, Lushnje, Vlore, etc., have fulfilled their tasks well in general, while still saving energy. [passage omitted]

State Postal Service Celebrates Anniversary

AU051814 Tirana ATA in English
0901 GMT 5 Dec 87

[Excerpt] Tirana, December 5 (ATA)—On occasion of the 75th anniversary of the creation of the Albanian Post-Telegraph-Telephone State Administration a solemn meeting was organized at the Palace of Culture in the capital on December 4.

Attending were also Comrade Besnik Bekteshi, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the party and vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Pirro Kondi, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the party and first secretary of the district party committee, Xhafer Spahiu, vice-chairman of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, and other comrades.

The meeting was declared open by Sokol Hoxha, vice-director general of the PTT. Amidst the enthusiasm of those present, Comrade Besnik Bekteshi read the greeting of the first secretary of the Central Committee of the party, Comrade Ramiz Alia addressed to the working people of the PTT on this occasion. [passage omitted]

Zhivkov, Leaders Travel To Berlin Pact Meeting

AU101413 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian
1400 GMT 10 Dec 87

[Text] A short while ago Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and State Council chairman, departed for Berlin. He will take part in the meeting of leading figures of the Warsaw Pact member states which, according to a mutual agreement, will take place on 11 December in the GDR capital.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov is accompanied by Army General Dobri Dzhurov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and minister of national defense; and Petur Mladenov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and minister of foreign affairs.

Members and candidate members of the BCP Central Committee Politburo, Central Committee secretaries, and other officials saw the delegation off at Sofia Airport.

Alleged Luthansa Plane Hijacking Reported

ANATOLIA Report

TA091503 Ankara ANATOLIA in Turkish
1455 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Brussels (AA)— The Lufthansa Boeing 727 airliner that was hijacked while on a flight from Izmir to Frankfurt has landed at Sofia Airport in Bulgaria.

BTA Reports 'False Alarm'

AU091931 Sofia BTA in English
1916 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Sofia, December 9 (BTA)—This afternoon, some of the Western wire services broadcast a report that a Lufthansa Boeing-727 has been hijacked during a flight from Izmir, Turkey, to Frankfurt am Main, in the FRG.

Following the airliner's normal landing at Frankfurt Airport, it became clear that no attempt whatsoever had been made to hijack it. A Lufthansa spokesman was quoted as saying that the false alarm was the result of a misunderstanding between the airplane crew and the Bulgarian air controllers.

In this connection, a BTA reporter approached the air traffic control authority in the People's Republic of Bulgaria, who made the following statement: "The entry, the overflight and the exit of the Lufthansa airliner into and from Bulgaria's air space was normal and no signals were received about any terrorist action on board. Therefore, contrary to the allegations, the Bulgarian air controllers have not given any alarm signal."

An ANATOLIAN NEWS AGENCY report monitored by the BTA quoted the director general of the Turkish State Airports as saying that the jetliner had signalled a hijacking action seven minutes after take-off, when it was still in Turkish airspace.

Tanchev Meets With Danish Party Leaders

AU091811 Sofia BTA in English
1657 GMT 9 Dec 87

["Fruitful Contacts"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, December 9 (BTA)—Mr Petur Tanchev, secretary of the Bulgarian Agrarian Party (BZNS) and first vice president of the State Council, received Mr Thorkild Moller, chairman of the Radical Liberal Party of Denmark, and Mr Jens Peter Clausager, secretary general of the party, who are visiting here at the invitation of the BZNS Standing Committee.

The guests were acquainted with the reconstruction in all spheres of social life underway in Bulgaria.

The meeting expressed satisfaction over the fruitful development of the friendly contacts between the Bulgarian Agrarian Party and the Radical Liberal Party of Denmark.

The two sides commended the treaty signed by Mr Mikhail Gorbachev and Mr Ronald Reagan on the elimination of two classes of nuclear missiles and assessed it as a historic victory of political realism.

The guests stressed the contribution of Bulgaria and of State Council President Todor Zhivkov to peace, good-neighbourliness and cooperation in the Balkans and to their turning into a zone free of nuclear and chemical weapons.

Italy's Ruggiero Ends Talks, Meets Atanasov

AU081814 Sofia BTA in English
1700 GMT 8 Dec 87

["Bulgaria-Italy: Activation of Economic Contacts"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, December 8 (BTA)—Mr Khristo Khristov, Bulgaria's minister of trade, and Mr Renato Ruggiero [spelling of surname as received], minister of foreign trade of Italy, regard with optimism and confidence the further development of the bilateral trade and economic relations. We are entering into a new stage of our cooperation, said the guest before journalists, summarizing the results of the talks that were held here.

Telecommunications, food industry technologies and machines, and agricultural technology are assessed as priority spheres in cooperation. The contacts in the field of chemistry, biochemistry, pharmaceuticals, and refrigeration technology will be widened.

The establishment of joint societies will be facilitated by the conclusion and signing of an agreement for mutual protection and encouragement of investments. The signing of an agreement for avoiding double taxation is also expected in the near future.

The Bulgarian delegation handed a memorandum to Minister Ruggiero on the condition of the preliminary talks between Bulgaria and the EEC for the conclusion of an agreement for trade and economic cooperation. Recalling the exceptional competence of the community in the sphere of trade policy, the guest said that Italy supports that agreement and is ready to view in a positive light its different aspects. The Italian minister expressed his country's positive position for objective study of Bulgaria's candidacy by GATT.

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A positive assessment of the development of the bilateral economic relations was also given at the meeting between Mr Georgi Atanasov, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Mr Renato Ruggiero. Special attention was paid to the problems of the contract-legal basis for facilitation of the contacts between Bulgarian economic organizations and Italian companies.

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Mr Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs, and Minister Renato Ruggieri assessed highly the Soviet-American summit and stressed its importance for widening international cooperation, especially in the sphere of disarmament, and for broadening East-West cooperation.

Stanishev, BCP Delegation in Tanzania

AU092051 Sofia BTA in English
2007 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Dar es Salaam, December 9 (BTA)—A delegation of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party headed by Mr Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the CC of the BCP, paid a visit to Tanzania from December 6 through 8 at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania (CCM).

The delegation met Mr Rashidi Mfaume Kawawa, secretary general of the CCM, Mr Salim Ahmed Salim, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CC for international issues, Mr Daudi Mwakawago, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CC for political issues, and Mr David Lubuwa, acting minister of foreign affairs.

The two sides exchanged information on the tasks which the two parties are currently solving and opinions on topical issues of international development.

The talks expressed solidarity with the South African patriots and the peoples of the front-line states struggling against apartheid. They gave a high assessment to the present development of the relations between the two parties and countries and confirmed their readiness to promote them further.

The two sides signed a plan on cooperation between the BCP and the CCM for the 1988-1989 period.

Government Decree on Agriculture Announced

AU100810 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian
5 Oct 87 pp 1, 2

["Decree of the Council of Ministers on Creating Conditions for a Qualitatively New Stage in the Development of Agriculture"— boldfaced passages as published]

[Text] In accordance with the "Basic Premises of the Concept for the Further Construction of Socialism in the People's Republic of Bulgaria" adopted by the July plenum and the decision of the BCP Central Committee Politburo dated 26 November 1987 "Concerning a Qualitatively New Stage in the Development of Agriculture," the Council of Ministers adopted a decree which creates the necessary economic conditions and organizational preconditions for the restructuring of this important branch of the country's economy.

The further intensive development of agriculture will be implemented through a new type of organization of production, in which the agricultural brigade will be the leading unit. In the creation of conditions for the brigade to be built up and function as a self-managing organization, it is planned that it will operate with complete economic independence and be self-supporting and self-financing, on the basis of the most efficient utilization of the land and the other means of production.

Where appropriate, the brigades are to be formed on the territory of the townships, while in the case of smaller villages they may encompass the territory of several townships. Conditions are created for the broad application of the piecework form of labor organization and for a changeover to payment based on end results.

The brigades may be combined into agro-industrial complexes, but in such a case preserve their complete independence and themselves determine which functions they will hand over to the agro-industrial complexes for deciding tasks of a general nature.

The agro-industrial complexes will be reorganized as economic associations [obedineniya] of brigades and other units for the implementation of a coordinated policy for introducing scientific- technical progress and for efficiently utilizing the land, equipment, materials, and labor resources.

On the basis of the new organization of production in agriculture, it is planned to create conditions and incentives for radically increasing the scope and efficiency of agricultural production, raising labor productivity by a factor of 1.5-2, more fully satisfying the requirements of the population in the townships, municipalities, and oblasts through self-satisfaction with agricultural products, ensuring the country's national economic balances and needs for fresh and processed agricultural products, fulfilling export obligations, and winning new market positions.

In order to improve the financial state of the agricultural organizations and to provide conditions for their self-supporting and self-financing, additional economic incentives and financial reliefs are approved.

The system of setting prices for agricultural products will be further improved. In future the government will only fix purchasing prices for the basic agricultural products, while for the remainder, prices will be applied by agreement. Supplements are approved to be added to the purchasing prices of the main agricultural products, for the purpose of which over 800 million leva is to be allocated annually from the budget. The supplement for ordinary wheat will be 45 leva per tonne, for corn 60 leva per tonne, for oriental tobacco 450 leva, for mature beans 250 leva, for dessert grapes 240 leva, for late potatoes 100 leva, for mature onions 140 leva, for red onions 250 leva, for baby lamb 880 leva, for weaned lamb 480 leva, for pork 600 leva, for broiler chickens 300 leva, for cow's milk with 3.4 percent fat content 70 leva, and so on. Supplements are also approved for agricultural products whose purchasing prices are fixed by agreement, such as hard wheat, strong wheats, red pepper for grinding, green beans, green peas, cherries, morello cherries, strawberries, raspberries, and others.

The supplements for products from animal farming are to be applied from the beginning of 1988. The supplements for meat will be paid out to the producers, including to individual farmers, after they have fulfilled their obligations regarding the quantities supplied to meet the state orders and contracts concluded for 1987. The supplements for products from plant growing will be paid starting from the 1988 harvest.

In order to improve the financial state of the agricultural organizations, the remainder of the unpaid loans due for payment up to 1986, comprising an amount of 530 million leva, is cancelled. The National Agro-industrial Union Association is advised to cancel loans due for repayment to an amount of 238 million leva. The settlement of the debt relating to credits for capital investments up to 31 December 1987, amounting to 1,105 million leva, is postponed until the end of 1992.

In order to encourage the production of seed from cereals and beans, hemp, garden peas, garden beans, and mangel-wurzels, prizes are to be presented in the form of feed grain.

The system of insurance is also to be further improved. From 1 January 1988 the State Insurance Institute will apply a differential system for the voluntary insurance of agricultural crops and will expand its participation by means of its own funds in measures to reduce and prevent risk factors and the resulting consequences. **The decree instructs the agricultural organizationsfrom the other branches to give priority to creating the necessary conditions for development of the national agro-industrial complex.** The appropriate organs and organizations are given the task of drawing up an integrated program for the accelerated development of agricultural machine building and for fully meeting the requirements of public and individual farms for compact, small-size equipment. The agricultural organizations, with the active participation of the economic organizations from other branches, may open up small enterprises and workshops for the design and production of individual machines, equipment, and parts.

The Biological and Chemical Industry Association is ordered to ensure the production and delivery of the necessary liquid and lime-ammonium fertilizers, microfertilizers [mikrotorove], biological agents, plant growth regulators, and so on. On this basis the agricultural organizations are to create conditions for continuously increasing soil fertility, protecting the natural environment, and utilizing bioregulators, biological agents for plant protection, etc., that are harmless to man and animals. Meeting the agricultural organizations' requirements for plastic, and for raw and other materials will be given priority.

The Ministry of Transportation and the economic organizations it controls are to improve transportation services to agriculture, increasing the brigades' technological transportation facilities and introducing new technologies for the transportation of agricultural products.

The National Agro-industrial Union Association is instructed to work out a complete concept for development of the food and tobacco industry, creating the best conditions for integration and cooperation between the agricultural organizations and the enterprises of the food and tobacco industry.

The Ministry of the Economy and Planning and the National Agro-industrial Union Association will bring up to date the "Complex Special-Purpose Program for Developing Irrigation Farming," with a view to creating conditions by 1900 for 500,000 decares of new irrigated plots to be brought into operation annually, with the fullest and most efficient utilization of the country's water sources.

The organization of scientific services will be brought into conformity with the new brigade-type organization, and payments to the scientific-applications units will be made on the piecework principle.

A number of pressing social issues are resolved, connected with the creation of the necessary preconditions for bringing the material conditions and intellectual values of town and country dwellers up to the same level. Provision is made for measures to turn the village into a social community in the fullest sense of the word and to create conditions for a transfusion of cadres from the town to the village. The executive committees of the municipal people's councils are to organize the construction of the villages' integrated social and production-technological infrastructure, with the combined efforts of the agricultural organizations, cooperatives, industrial enterprises, and all other organizations and enterprises situated on the municipality's territory. The agricultural and other self-managing organizations will allocate means from their own funds for providing amenities and sanitation facilities for the villages, for participation in building up the health services and school networks, and for constructing buildings for services, trade, and other purposes.

Cadre training will be brought wholly onto a contractual basis between the agricultural organizations, schools, technical schools, and higher education establishments. The Ministry of Culture, Science, and Education and the National Agro-industrial Union Association are to adopt a system for further improving the training of operative cadres and specialists for agriculture with secondary and higher education and for raising the level of professional training of all those engaged in agriculture.

The National Agro-industrial Union Association, the executive committees of the municipal people's councils, and the agricultural organizations are ordered to adopt measures for a radical improvement of the age profile and the general level of professional training of the operative cadres, for raising the labor and living conditions of the agricultural workers, and for improving transportation services to the workers and specialists. Using their own means and through work-sharing with the townships, municipalities, and other self-managing organizations, the agroindustrial complexes and brigades are to expand the material base in order to ensure, by the end of 1900, public catering facilities for at least 50 percent of the agricultural workers and holiday facilities in rest homes for at least 30 percent of them. By decision of the collective organ of management of the brigades and the agroindustrial complexes, those engaged in agricultural production may be given a certain portion of their earned labor remuneration in the form of goods.

It is planned to open schools in villages where the number of fourth-year pupils is at least 15, to organize kindergardens in the existing buildings in villages in which there are at least 10 children under 2 years old, and to provide medical services in villages with populations over 100, using various forms.

In working out the new system of basic wages, based on consistent application of the self-supporting principle and the principle of payment according to results, the Ministry of the Economy and Planning and the National Agroindustrial Union Association, after coordination with the BCP Central Committee, are to propose measures to ensure that the basic wages rise in conformity with the nature, complexity, and social importance of labor in agriculture, bringing these wages into line with the remuneration of workers in industry and the other branches of material production.

By decision of the brigade, highly qualified leading cadres and specialists with secondary and higher education who live with their families in the country and work in agricultural brigades or in service enterprises located in the same area may be paid additional labor remuneration of up to 30 percent above the basic wage.

The collective organs of management of the brigades and the agro-industrial complexes may grant the following additional social perquisites and incentives to agricultural workers, specialists, and leaders:

—They may pay the fee for the right, duly relinquished by the state, to build on state land for individual or group housing construction in villages defined by the executive committee of the municipal people's council, provided that the workers, specialists, and leaders in question conclude a contract to work and accept the obligation to live with their families in these villages for at least 15 years.

—People up to 30 years of age engaged in agriculture as workers or specialists and who have a contract to work for at least 5 years, may be paid a single sum of 1,500 leva, and those who have signed a 10-year labor contract may be paid 3,000 leva; those who leave the village before the expiry of the above period must repay all of the amount received.

—Dwellings may be built or purchased, and the free housing stock repaired in the villages, and such dwellings rented out to workers, specialists, and other cadres, or sold to them at the prices operating at the moment when they move into the accommodation, provided that these persons conclude labor contracts for over 15 years.

Young workers, specialists, and other cadres aged up to 30 years may have the benefit of a loan of up to 12,000 leva from the State Savings Bank, repayable over a 30-year period, for building or purchasing a dwelling in the relevant populated area, with no savings bank investment being required, provided they conclude a contract to work and live in the relevant populated area for at least 15 years. Loans are to be granted upon a proposal from the leaderships of the brigades and the agroindustrial complexes. The brigade may adopt a decision and pay the interest on the loan, and after the expiry of 15 years from the conclusion of the agreement may cancel the remainder of the loan.

Newly arrived and experienced young people up to 30-years old who are directly engaged in agriculture—machine operators and animal husbandry workers who have completed an approved number of days of work, when concluding agreements to work for 15 years in return for earned labor remuneration, may be paid additional remuneration by the brigades and agroindustrial complexes, by decision of the collective organs of management, as follows: For the first year, a bonus of up to 50 percent; for the second year, a bonus of up to 40 percent; and for the third year, up to 30 percent extra; those who leave before completing the contracted period must repay the sums received.

Workers and employees called in to work in agriculture at peak periods as machine operators, combine harvester drivers, and drivers of other equipment, may be allotted each year a plot for their personal use of up to 2 decares of nonirrigated land or 1 decare of irrigated land. Land for individual use may also be allocated to health workers and teachers living on the relevant territory for their entire period of residence there.

In drawing up the law on social security, it is planned to propose an improvement in the pension provision for those working in agriculture, and from 1 July 1988 their minimum pensions are to be increased.

By the adoption of this decree real conditions are created for implementing the party's decisions for speedily increasing agricultural production, for developing the Bulgarian countryside, and for attaining a new stage and qualitatively new growth of socialist agriculture.

Results of AIDS Testing Program Announced

AU081357 Sofia BTA in English
1210 GMT 8 Dec 87

[Text] Sofia, December 8 (BTA)—Bulgaria is the only member country of the World Health Organization to report figures on its AIDS carriers. Speaking at the weekly press conference at the AIDS Control Programme Board today, Dr Svetoslav Todorov, vice president of the Medical Academy, announced that of the 287,264 Bulgarians and foreigners tested for the virus so far, 102 have been established as AIDS carriers.

This country has 45 diagnostic laboratories and one central laboratory for AIDS. Last week alone, they screened 429 foreigners seeking a longer stay in Bulgaria. The 51 foreigners found to be infected so far have left the country. Of the 260,613 Bulgarians who had undergone testing so far, exposure to the AIDS virus has been detected in 51, two of which have developed the full-blown symptoms of the disease. The tests have confirmed the WHO categorization of the spread of AIDS in Bulgaria as "Type 3", i.e. a slowly rising incidence, introduced from abroad and affecting the heterosexual population. This pattern is also characteristic of Japan and of the whole of Eastern Europe.

Only two of the 2,639 homosexuals and bisexuals tested so far were diagnosed as AIDS seropositive. The 5,234 prostitutes who have taken the test up to now included three HIV carriers. Recently the health authorities have taken great pains to extend active outpatient control at the dermatological and venereological clinics over the high-risk groups. Last week alone, 142 persons underwent testing and no one was found to have been exposed to the virus.

Since mandatory premarital tests went into effect, more than 27,000 candidates for marriage have passed through the AIDS laboratories and no AIDS carrier was detected among them. Only one pregnant woman of the total of 3,854 checked for the infection so far has tested positive. Blood donors are the most numerous group of people tested so far: 153,000. The units of blood stored in this country are also being screened for AIDS contamination.

Husak Departs for Warsaw Pact Meeting

LD101536 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1500 GMT 10 Dec 87

[Text] Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, president of the republic, left Prague for Berlin today to take part in the meeting of chief representatives of the Warsaw Pact member states.

Comrade Gustav Husak is accompanied by Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek and Colonel General Karel Rusov, first deputy national defense minister. Seeing off Comrade Gustav Husak at Ruzyne airport were Premier Lubomir Strougal; Ladislav Adamec, Vasil Bilak, Karel Hoffman, Alois Indra, Milos Jakes, and Josef Kempny, other members of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium; Jan Fotik, Josef Haman, and Frantisek Pitra, candidate members of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium; Mikulas Beno, Josef Havlin, and Jindrich Polednik, secretaries of the party Central Committee; Zdenek Horeni, Marie Kabrhelova, and Miroslav Zavadil, members of the CPCZ Central Committee Secretariat; and Jaroslav Hajn, chairman of the party's Central Control and Auditing Commission.

More Reaction to U.S.-USSR Missile Agreement

General on On-Site Inspections

AU101145 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 9 Dec 87 p 2

[CTK report: "First Deputy Chief of the Czechoslovak People's Army General Staff Answers; On Inspections on Czechoslovak Territory"]

[Text] Prague (CTK)—In connection with the signing of the Soviet-American treaty on the elimination of the medium-range and operational-tactical missiles, CTK asked Lieutenant General Jiri Brychta, first deputy chief of the Czechoslovak People's Army (CSLA) General Staff, for an interview yesterday [8 December]:

[CTK] How is the Czechoslovak side prepared to ensure the inspections which will be carried out on our territory in connection with the verification of the treaty's observance?

[Brychta] Even though the treaty directly concerns only the Soviet Union and the United States, in view of the fact that missiles belonging to the Soviet armed forces are also stationed on CSSR territory, the treaty on their elimination directly applies to the CSSR. The CSSR Government studied all problems connected with the treaty, its international-political and military significance, and being aware of its great importance for the reduction of tension in Europe it gave its fundamental consent to inspection measures on our territory. The inspections are at the same time a part of the control measures and constitute one of the main methods of verification of the two sides' observance of their assumed pledges.

[CTK] How will the inspections be carried out?

[Brychta] U.S. inspectors will be carrying out inspections on CSSR territory. The manner of verification has been accurately determined in the Protocol on Inspections, which is an integral part of the Soviet-American treaty. The protocol enables U.S. inspectors to enter CSSR territory in order to undertake inspections in selected areas of Soviet military installations on our territory. The rights of members of the inspection teams and their entourage, and their privileges and immunity, have also been precisely defined. At the same time, however, it has been absolutely precisely specified that inspectors are obliged to observe CSSR laws. Their activity must not exceed the extent of their duties, and in no case may they interfere in the internal affairs of our Republic. In this case the sovereignty of the CSSR is guaranteed by measures which the USSR succeeded in having included in the treaty. The CSSR has the guaranteed right of reservation in respect to the activity of members of the inspection teams should it not be in accordance with the protocol and lead to the violation of Czechoslovak laws and regulations.

[CTK] What role will the CSLA play in ensuring the inspections?

[Brychta] The CSLA is organizationally, methodically, and materially prepared to ensure its share of these inspections. Cooperation with the Czechoslovak ministries concerned and the command of the Soviet Armed Forces is ensured. This will make it possible to effectively solve all problems connected with the carrying out of inspections. Similarly as in the case of the implementation of the provisions of the document of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe, also in the case of the treaty on the elimination of medium-range and operational-tactical missiles between the Soviet Union and the United States we are fully prepared to guarantee and ensure the implementation of all provisions which concern the CSSR.

'Distinct Change' in U.S. Mood

LD100923 Prague CTK in English 0803 GMT 10 Dec 87

[Text] Prague Dec 10 (CTK)—A distinct change could be felt in the mood of Americans on Tuesday as the historic moment of signing the Soviet-U.S. missile treaty seized the country, the Czechoslovak Communist Party daily RUDE PRAVO said today in its comment on the Soviet-U.S. summit talks.

"The usually business-minded Americans appeared to be clearly overwhelmed by the significance of the historic moment," the newspaper's Washington correspondent wrote in his dispatch.

"One of the reasons may have been the long and persistent opposition by political 'hawks' here to arms control accords with the Soviet Union," the paper said.

But it said the "better-understood substance of Soviet policy" and its presentation certainly had a major role in the apparent shift in the Americans' feelings.

"The shifts now occurring in America's public opinion and frightening so much the American right wing have much to do not only with the better-understood substance of Soviet policy under Mikhail Gorbachev, but also with its presentation," it said.

But it warned a real change in the U.S. stand had yet to come, saying: "new and justified hopes have been raised, but old thinking and anti-Soviet stereotypes are far from having been removed by the so far successful summit."

"The future will show what has really changed under the influence of the treaty now signed in the thinking and approach of Americans to their relations with the Soviet Union and to the arms control process."

Party, State Hail Treaty

LD091721 Prague CTK in English 1618 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Prague Dec 9 (CTK)—The Presidium of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee and the Czechoslovak Government today welcomed the signing of the Soviet-U.S. treaty on the liquidation of medium- and shorter-range missiles in Washington and described it as "the first major step to a world without nuclear weapons".

The Czechoslovak people, together with the nations of the world, receive this historic treaty as a victory of reason and political responsibility, they said.

The party presidium and the government expressed praise and thanks to the Soviet Communist Party, the Soviet Government and Mikhail Gorbachev personally for their initiative, perseverance, courage and consistency in pushing through new thinking in international relations. As Mikhail Gorbachev said, December 8, 1987 will enter history as a milestone dividing the era of a growing nuclear threat from the era of demilitarization of human life.

The party presidium and the government voiced the conviction that the liquidation of two classes of nuclear weapons would significantly help reduce tension in Europe, strengthen the security of European states, promote confidence and develop all-round mutual cooperation. The Czechoslovak Government reiterated its readiness to contribute to the implementation of the agreement by concrete deeds.

Chnoupek Lauds 'Victory of Realism'

LD092204 Prague CTK in English 1757 GMT 9 Dec 87

["CTK Interview With Bohuslav Chnoupek"—CTK headline]

[Text] Prague Dec 9 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek today voiced the conviction that the treaty on the liquidation of medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles will enter history as a major event.

He told CTK today that the treaty clearly showed that the prospects for a nuclear-free world are feasible, in a way which was set forth in the foreign political program of the 27th Soviet Communist Party Congress and with which the 17th Czechoslovak Communist Party Congress identified itself.

"It is convincing proof of the transforming force of new foreign political thinking, of the attraction of the ideas of peace and disarmament. It is a victory of realism and sense, a result of joint efforts of the Soviet Union and the United States but also of support of their allies and representatives of peace-loving forces.

Czechoslovakia is one of the nine countries which are immediately concerned by the treaty as Soviet shorter-range nuclear missiles were deployed on our territory, after an agreement between the Governments of the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia, in response to the deployment of U.S. Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe", the minister said.

Since the very beginning, Czechoslovakia welcomed the idea of the liquidation of these two clases of nuclear weapons, and actively supported the complex talks, as well as the necessity of an agreement at all levels, both in bilateral and multilateral frameworks, Bohuslav Chnoupek said.

He expressed the conviction that the signing of disarmament which will undoubtedly touch off a chain reaction aimed at the limitation of strategic offensive weapons, but also in other spheres of disarmament.

Czechoslovakia is ready to fully participate in the realization of this treaty, he stressed.

Treaty 'A Beginning'

LD090037 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 9 Dec 87

["A Beginning That May Change a Lot": note by Jiri Chebrovsky dedicated to the signing of the Soviet-U.S. INF Treaty]

[Text] As long as facts are clear and demonstrative, they do not need further attributes. This also goes for the treaty that was signed in Washington yesterday by Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan. The USSR and the

United States concluded a treaty saying that they will do away with a part of their nuclear arsenals, a treaty that every sane and sensible person of this planet welcomes as the first step of true disarmament in the history of mankind. This statement does not require high, floating attributes, either. It is a fact that speaks for itself; it speaks through the significance of the actual essence of the matter.

Probably, and it is natural, a question may arise as to what stands in the way of the signatures of the two statesmen to change into reality; for example, some people in the United States play with the idea that the treaty will not be ratified by the U.S. Senate. Yet another question may arise as to what this treaty changes regarding the dimensions of the huge nuclear arsenals the two sides possess. Fast mathematicians figured out that what is involved is a mere 4 percent of the stocks. As to further questions, one should mention doubts as to the trust between the USSR and the United States, the very fragile and sensitive network of relations which, owing to some altogether different event, may splutter like a soap bubble. Then the treaty, and particularly the passage on control, might be ruined.

It is sometimes difficult in real life to resist attempts immediately to reply to all burning and provocative issues. Maybe it is a commendable striving, but life itself moderates this vehemence to achieve the basic things immediately, simply because answers to complicated questions lag behind the questions. It is, indeed, appropriate to use a quote from the ingenious Russian writer, Leo Tolstoy, who said that the strongest of all warriors are time and patience. That is why the discussions and deliberations about the Washington treaty, signed yesterday, must go through the process of ripening. They need what Leo Tolstoy felt and thought through. Above all, of all these deliberations, assessments, and viewpoints the most essential point should emerge, namely that the treaty on doing away with two classes of nuclear weapons, which was signed by Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan, is a mere beginning, that it becomes the first link in the tremendous effort at an overall nuclear disarmament, pointing the way, which is not easy. There always are enough people in the world who cannot imagine our planet without these weapons, but the treaty does point to a path. It demonstrates that possibilities of freeing mankind from the fear of a nuclear catastrophe exist, that they are realistic. Without exaggeration, the signing of the Washington treaty provides evidence of transforming a dream into reality. This assertion needs no high, floating attributes, either.

Clergy Declares Support

AU101010 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 9 Dec 87 p 2

[CTK report: "Support for the Peaceful Future"]

[Text] Prague (CTK)—The peace activists of the Ecumenical Council of Churches in the CSSR assembled in Prague yesterday [8 December]. In connection with the current Soviet-American summit negotiations, up to 60 Czechoslovak peace church representatives evaluated the activities carried out by their churches to date for the benefit of peace and assessed the possibilities on the road toward cooperation between the peoples, toward a world without nuclear arms, toward life in peace. The meeting expressed support for the USSR-U.S. treaty on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles, but also for all other initiatives aimed at ensuring a just and peaceful future of mankind.

Citizens Express Hope

LD091525 Prague CTK in English 1105 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Prague Dec 9 (CTK)—The Soviet-American intermediate nuclear forces treaty signed by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan during their summit talks in Washington on Tuesday has sparked a wave of appreciation among Czechoslovak citizens.

"I think this is the most significant act accomplished in our time," film director Vit Olmer told CTK in an interview.

Olmer, whose movies drew praise during recent screening in the United States, said: "I am convinced most Americans will welcome (the treaty) with joy and relief."

He also expressed hope the treaty would inspire greater trust and understanding between nations and boost cultural exchange.

Astronomer Vaclav Bumba said, "We scientists are well aware of the threat to mankind posed by space weaponry and the possibility of its malfunction...this is why I welcome the signing of the treaty as a major step on the path to a non-nuclear world."

Czechoslovak national basketball team coach Pavel Petera, back from a two-week trip to the United States, said debates he had with Americans proved people overwhelmingly desired peace and cooperation between nations.

"I dare say the signing of the accord is a historic milestone of the 20th Century," Petera said.

"As a sportsman, I naturally hope sports rivalry will help further cement friendship between young people all over the world as it is entering a new stage of detente."

Syrian Delegation Arrives in Prague

LD091733 Prague CTK in English 1523 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Prague Dec 9 (CTK)—A delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic headed by Minister of Local Government Amhad Diyab arrived here today for a working visit at the invitation of Czech and Slovak Interior Ministers Josef Jung and Stefan Lazar respectively.

The Syrian guests will be acquainted during their visit with the activity of national committees of all levels, their influence on economic and social development of districts and regions, and with the forms of state administration. They will also exchange views with representatives of the two ministries on the possibilities of extending cooperation.

Foreign Trade Minister Holds Talks in Damascus
LD100217 Prague CTK in English 1734 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Damascus Dec 8 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Minister of Foreign Trade Bohumil Urban ended today his talks with Syrian Government representatives.

During his visit, Bohumil Urban was received by Syrian Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi and held talks with Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs Salim Yasin, Defence Minister Mustafa Talas and Economy and Foreign Trade Minister Muhammad al-'Imadi.

The talks were focused on the supplies of Syrian goods to Czechoslovakia and other forms of cooperation.

Chnoupek Receives French Official for Talks
LD081739 Prague CTK in English 1424 GMT 8 Dec 87

[Text] Prague Dec 8 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek received here today director of the French Foreign Ministry European Affairs Department Jacques Blot.

They discussed topical questions of the present international situation and prospects for further development of Czechoslovak-French relations.

More on Vaclavik Visit to Libya
LD090016 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0500 GMT 8 Dec 87

[Text] Libya—The delegation of the Czechoslovak people's army headed by Army General Milan Vaclavik, minister of national defense, continues its friendly visit to that country. At a meeting with employees of a repair works built in the Sahara with Czechoslovak assistance, Milan Vaclavik commended the selfless work of Czechoslovak workers, which has contributed toward strengthening Czechoslovak-Libyan relations.

Slusovice Agricultural Methods Score Success
AU101324 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 8 Dec 87 p 4

["NN"-signed article: "Successful Activation of People"]

[Excerpts] In the article "Cooperation Across Borders" (RUDE PRAVO 9 September 1987), we reported on Czechoslovak farmers' assistance in intensifying crop production and applying Czechoslovak technological systems of crop growing in the USSR. And the results? They surpass all expectations. In the first year of using the oil rape production system that was developed at the Advanced School of Agriculture in Prague, agricultural enterprises in Lvov Oblast achieved per-hectare yields of 2.9 to 3.05 tonnes, compared with only 1.8 to 1.9 tonnes when using their traditional technologies.

Even better results have been achieved by the Agrokombinat Slusovice united agricultural cooperative in applying its own system of grain corn cultivation. However, in this connection it has to be pointed out that the success has not come overnight. Cooperation has entered its third year already. In the first year (1985), the Slusovice farmers sowed grain corn on 570 hectares in Gotvald Rayon in Kharkov Oblast and achieved per-hectare yields of 4.5 tonnes. This was an undeniable success, considering that yields on surrounding plots averaged only 3.3 tonnes. In 1986 they sowed grain corn on 1,370 hectares in four sovkhozes of the oblast and achieved per-hectare yields of 4.5 to 4.8 tonnes. This was also a success, in view of the adverse climatic conditions and because the yields were more than double the figure of the surrounding sovkhozes.

This year the sown area increased to 2,066 hectares in six sovkhozes, which is more than one-third of the total area under grain corn in Gotvald Rayon. The result of the joint efforts of our and Soviet farmers surpassed even the most optimistic wishes. The per-hectare yields averaged 6.5 tonnes and on the irrigated fields of the Progress sovkhoz they reached the upper limit of 8 tonnes. [passage omitted]

Further on Visit by SFRY's Mikulic

Talks With Honecker

LD081644 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2132 GMT 7 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, 8 Dec (TANJUG)—Prior to the completion of his 2-day official and friendly visit to the GDR, Branko Mikulic, president of the FEC, had a meeting today in Berlin with Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council. In a 1 hour friendly talk, which was held in a cordial atmosphere, Honecker and Mikulic assessed very positively the state of relations between Yugoslavia and the GDR and their prospects.

Today and yesterday Mikulic had exhaustive talks with Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, about the development of cooperation. In the talks with Honecker, in which Premier Stoph also took part, it was assessed on both sides that there are indications of new prospects for the development of cooperation between the two countries, especially economic cooperation.

Also attending the meeting with Honecker were the Yugoslav Ambassador in the GDR, Milan Predojevic, and the GDR ambassador to Yugoslavia, Ralph Hartmann.

Today Mikulic told Yugoslav business officials in Berlin, with whom he had a meeting in the Embassy along with other representatives of the Yugoslav community, that he had very useful and meaningful talks here. We hope, he said, that the economic cooperation between the two countries—the value of which this year will be about $840 million dollars—will develop even more intensively over the coming years.

Stoph Toast at Dinner

AU100922 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 8 Dec 87 p 3

["Toast by Willi Stoph," chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, at a dinner given in honor of SFRY Prime Minister Branko Mikulic in East Berlin on 7 December: "Cooperation Stands on a Solid Foundation"]

[Text] Dear Comrade Branko Mikulic, dear Yugoslav comrades and friends, ladies and gentlemen:

Permit me first to repeat my cordial welcome to you, dear Comrade Mikulic, and your entourage in the GDR.

It is a great pleasure for me that you have accepted our invitation and we now have the opportunity to continue the traditional exchange of views between the GDR and the SFRY. I note with sincere satisfaction that, already today, we have had a very interesting dialogue that has been rich in results. It was essentially helped by the mutual trust and understanding, which characterize the overall relations between our countries that are linked in friendship with each other.

Yugoslavia Gave Solidarity Aid to the Young GDR [subhead]

Our meeting takes place a few weeks after the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the GDR and the SFRY. This determined step that was inspired by your country at that time has always met with our great appreciation.

In a complicated and tense international situation Yugoslavia gave solidarity support to the young first German worker-peasant state in its struggle for worldwide recognition by international law. The development over the past 3 decades has provided generally visible proof of the prudence and farsightedness of this decision.

Since that time cooperation between our parties, states, and peoples has been developing with steadily increasing benefit for both sides. In this cooperation we can rely on a broad and solid foundation of many things we have in common.

They are based on the humanist and progressive heritage of our peoples, are deeply rooted in the joint struggles—which are rich in traditions—of the German and Yugoslav workers class against capitalist exploitation, fascism, and war, and lead to joint efforts to ensure peaceful and fruitful prospects for the socialist construction work in our countries.

By steadily developing and deepening the trusting relations of firm friendship and overall cooperation, we are following the path outlined by Comrade Erich Honecker and Yugoslavia's unforgotten president, Comrade Josip Broz Tito, during their numerous meetings.

New important and far-reaching stimuli for the further shaping of our relations emanated from the successful visit of Comrade Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, to your country in October 1985 and his meetings with leading SFRY representatives.

As a result of the purposeful implementation of the agreements made at the highest level, our cooperation is continuously developing and has reached a gratifyingly high standard in all fields.

Our countries are closely linked by comprehensive contacts in politics, economy, education, culture, and science. With an increasing variety of forms and methods of economic relations, the GDR and the SFRY are carrying out a considerable volume of mutual trade.

Specialization and cooperation both in production and in science and research have reached a good standard. Our meeting will certainly contribute to their further development.

Great Hopes for the Gorbachev-Reagan Talks [subhead]

Dear Comrade Mikulic: Our deliberations are again confirming the concurrence of our countries' views with regard to today's world. We are both concerned about the most important and urgent question of the present, that is, how to prevent a nuclear inferno and how to ensure a peaceful future for mankind.

The peoples of our countries and all people of good will put great hopes on the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Washington and its planned results.

The GDR fully agrees with the treaty on the global elimination of both superpowers' medium-range missiles. For the first time, this would totally eliminate an entire category of nuclear weapons of mass destruction. This makes the start of real nuclear disarmament, for which the GDR, too, has been struggling for a long time, approach realization. Indeed, this would also facilitate the path toward progress in other fields of nuclear and conventional disarmament and could introduce a change for the better in international relations in general.

It is of symbolic importance that this historic step is taking place in the 70th year of the Great October Socialist Revolution. After its victory, which was also fought for also by German and Yugoslav patriots and revolutionaries, the proclamation of the Decree on Peace was the first international act of the young Soviet Russia. With this, socialism's humanist policy that safeguards peace entered the state and international-law arena.

The possibility of peacefully living side by side and peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems, which was founded by Lenin, has become the sole alternative today, the categorical imperative.

Struggling for Peace Anew Again and Again [subhead]

But today the historical experience that peace has to be struggled for anew, again and again, applies more than ever before. Nothing happens of itself; and in particular in disarmament nothing happens automatically.

Greatest efforts of all peace-loving forces continue to be required to halt the arms race on earth, to prevent its extension to space, to achieve an agreement on the worldwide ban of chemical weapons, and to pass on to further nuclear disarmament and to disarmament of conventional weapons.

The bold plan of the states of socialism and the forces of peace for a general and total disarmament, for an all-encompassing system of international security, and for freeing the world from nuclear weapons by the end of the century is finding an ever firmer place in the people's minds because it corresponds in the truest sense of the word to their immediate vital interests.

The GDR is supporting socialism's peace program, which does not shy away from any kind of weapons and does not exclude any control mechanisms. We are in favor of progressing from zero-option to zero-option, following the principle of equality and equal security.

We can state with a clear conscience that in the heart of Europe the GDR is making its contribution to safeguarding peace in line with the supreme principle of its policy that war must never again emanate from German soil but only peace. For this purpose we, as the socialist German state, are continuing the intensive political dialogue with responsible forces and all other forces in capitalist states interested in reaching an understanding. These peace efforts also determine our relationship with the FRG.

Integrated into our efforts to build an "all-European house," in which the peoples of the Continent can live in peace and safety, we consider the initiatives undertaken together with the CSSR to establish a nuclear-free corridor and a chemical-weapons-free zone in central Europe at the sensitive border line between the two largest military coalitions extremely topical.

At the same time, we fully support any analogous initiatives in other regions, such as in the Balkans, aimed at disarmament and an improvement of the international situation.

Appreciation for the Nonaligned Movement [subhead]

The GDR is following with great attention the support of the nonaligned states for peace, disarmament, and equal cooperation in the world. The "Harare Appeal" adopted at the eighth summit meets with our full support as a document of high moral responsibility. We highly appreciate the SFRY's active role in the Nonaligned Movement.

Dear Comrade Mikulic, dear Yugoslav comrades and friends: During your stay in the GDR you will have the opportunity to get a personal impression of the development of our country, whose citizens are successfully implementing with high performances and creative initiative the policy decided by the 11th SED Congress.

We know that our Yugoslav friends are also working purposefully on implementing the decisions of the 13th LCY Congress and we wholeheartedly wish them success.

We have every reason to be convinced that your visit to the GDR will be of great value for the further cooperation between our countries. Our meeting will contribute to making our friendly relations even closer and to deepen them further.

With this in mind, I ask you to raise your glasses with me and drink —to the consolidation of friendship and cooperation between our parties, states, and peoples, and to the health of their leading representatives; —to our joint work in the struggle for peace and socialism; —to your health, dear Comrade Branko Mikulic, and to the health of all comrades and friends present here!

More on Talks

AU081630 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 8 Dec 87

[Text] On the second day of his visit to the GDR, Branko Mikulic, president of the FEC, was received by Erich Honecker, SED general secretary and chairman of the State Council. Branko Mikulic will conclude his 2-day visit and return to Yugoslavia today. Branislav Canak reports from Berlin:

Erich Honecker and Branko Mikulic talked about the possibilities to further advance bilateral relations, which were assessed as very successful. Recalling his meetings with President Tito, Honecker said that those relations are founded on the traditional friendship that has been built upon since the establishment of relations 30 years ago. Honecker and Mikulic also discussed the most important questions of international relations touching on the future of relations in Europe in particular. It was said that the process of disarmament, which is to begin with the signing of the American-Soviet agreement on medium- and short-range missiles, demands additional efforts on the part of everyone with a view to ensuring permanent peace in the world.

FEC President Branko Mikulic visited the Town Hall in the morning and signed the Golden Book of Berlin, and the final talks between Branko Mikulic and his host Willi Stoph, chairman of the Council of Ministers are taking place while we are reporting this.

Shortly before his departure for Yugoslavia, FEC President Branko Mikulic will visit one of the four largest combines of the GDR machine tool industry, which is one of the strongest in the world.

Mikulic, Stoph on Talks

LD082340 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1841 GMT 8 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, 8 Dec (TANJUG)—In their statements given to journalists at Berlin airport this evening, Mikulic and Stoph spoke highly about the outcome of their 2-day talks.

This visit is of great importance for the development of friendly relations between our two countries, said the chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, adding that on this occasion an agreement had been reached about developing even closer economic cooperation between the two countries. Stoph explained that he referred to the potentials for developing cooperation in various fields of production, science, and technology, and for establishing direct contacts between economic enterprises.

"We are very pleased that the visit has taken place and believe that it will yield good results," Stoph said.

Mikulic described his talks in Berlin as a very useful exchange of views about the possibilities for further developing economic, scientific, and technological cooperation between Yugoslavia and the GDR over the coming years. Particular attention, he said, was focused on higher forms of cooperation: industrial cooperation, joint investment, and joint scientific and research projects. Mikulic added that during the talks particular attention also was concentrated on the possible ways of advancing cooperation in the service industries and in tourism, in particular.

In Mikulic's view, "there are good prospects for raising cooperation to an even higher level." Both sides are in the mood to achieve this, he said.

Mikulic and Stoph held their closing talks this afternoon. During the talks it was agreed that as early as January of next year, work should begin to prepare documents on economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the two countries up to year 2000.

The FEC president left Berlin by air this evening for Belgrade. At Berlin airport Mikulic was cordially seen off by Premier Stoph and other representatives of the GDR Government.

Yugoslav ambassador in the GDR Milan Predojevic also was present with the Embassy staff.

Commentary Looks to Steps After INF Treaty

LD100015 East Berlin Voice of GDR Domestic Service in German 1705 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Commentary by Harald Scheffler]

[Text] The first step has been taken. At 1403 local time yesterday in Washington Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan signed the treaty on the elimination of medium-range nuclear missiles. A victory of reason and common sense. Delight and satisfaction about this are feelings felt by mankind at this time. After all, millions of people throughout the world have worked, by way of their resolute struggle for such an agreement, for an abandonment of the madness of the arms race, for a breakthrough in the apparently inexorable continuation of the arms spiral. When the treaty signed yesterday in Washington comes into force after ratification by the parliaments of the USSR and the United States, when the medium-range missiles fall victim to destruction, then the world will be a good deal more secure. A whole class of nuclear weapons carriers will disappear. For the first time in history there is a treaty which not only limits armaments but with the aid of which there will be real disarmament—an example that disarmament is possible and feasible. This will be of great significance for further steps, still to be agreed, in this sphere.

The road to this agreement was long and difficult. This is true not only of the often complicated negotiations by the delegations in Geneva, which call for a high degree of responsibility from both sides. One must also refer to the consistent policy, comprising many steps, of the Soviet Union and the other socialist states, which through their numerous proposals and offers did everything to remove the obstacles from the path—a reliable policy directed at the creation of the trust without which such an agreement is not possible. And finally, the powerful and determined actions by the worldwide peace movement impressively articulated the desire of the peoples for disarmament and detente, in a way politicians could not ignore.

The policy of our country also made its contribution to this development. Unwaveringly, even at a time when the deployment of the new U.S. medium-range missiles against the wishes of the peoples was apparently indicating the irreversibility of the arms race, it backed dialogue. Now most of all—that was the motto then. And tirelessly every opportunity was used to create the preconditions of a worldwide coalition of reason and realism. Erich Honecker acted on behalf of a politically and economically stable and for that reason respected state in central Europe. To this extent the citizens of this country have made a contribution through their industrious work to this step toward peace. After all, the GDR is one of those states from whose territory these weapons will disappear. For that reason, too, the pleasure and satisfaction about this treaty are particularly great in our country.

The agreement signed in Washington is a beginning, a first step on a road which is still long. But as Mikhail Gorbachev said in his television address in Washington, even the longest journey begins with the first step. That it could be made was only possible, the CPSU general secretary said, by overcoming pent-up emotions and deeply rooted cliches. This gives rise to the hope that the next necessary disarmament steps, although certainly with even more complicated material, could maybe even be made more easily, and that as a result of this first step a disarmament dynamic will come into being. The radical reduction of strategic offensive weapons while maintaining the ABM Treaty, the elimination of the chemical weapons, a significant reduction in conventional armed forces and armaments, the dismantling of the short-range missiles and tactical nuclear weapons—all these could be the next steps. Such initiatives as that from the SED and SPD on a chemical weapon-free zone and a nuclear-free corridor as interim steps toward a world free of weapons of mass destruction remain in the discussion.

The road to a world of peace will not become simpler. It will still require continued struggle, continued determined support by all interested in peace, so that one day it will be possible to say: the movement toward a secure world has assumed an irreversible nature. The first, uncommonly important step has been taken. It should give courage and strength for this still long road.

Further on Visit by Poland's Olechowski

Talks With Krolikowski

LD081635 Warsaw PAP in English 1316 GMT 8 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, Dec. 7—During talks here Monday between Polish and GDR Deputy Foreign Ministers Tadeusz Olechowski and Herbert Krolikowski, respectively, the sides stressed that Poland and the GDR were firmly resolved to realize the decisions reached during the Sept.16th, 1987 meeting between Wojciech Jaruzelski and Erich Honecker.

During an exchange of opinions on international matters both men stressed the significance of the meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan for the improvement of the international situation. They also stressed Poland's and the GDR's firm resolve of acting for the persistent realization of the peace programme which was put forward by the socialist countries' community.

Meeting With Nier

LD091730 Warsaw PAP in English 1434 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, Dec.—Polish Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Tadeusz Olechowski held political consultations in Berlin with his GDR counterpart Kurt Nier.

Olechowski was received by First Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Herbert Krolikowski. During talks, sides exchanged views on the development of the international situation, especially relations of both countries with main socialist states.

Mlynczak Received by Hermann, Ends Visit

LD101039 Warsaw PAP in English 0014 GMT 10 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, Dec. 9—Chairman of the main committee of Poland's Democratic Party Tadeusz Witold Mlynczak ended his visit to Berlin today.

He held talks with chairman of the Liberal Democratic Party of Germany Manfred Gerlach. The two discussed the state of and prospects for the development of relations between both parties. They expressed their parties' support for the INF Treaty, signed by Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan, and for the continuation of activities for disarmament.

Also today Mlynczak was received by Political Bureau member, SED CC Secretary Joachim Hermann.

SED's Boehme Receives DKP Delegation

LD092244 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1542 GMT 9 Dec 87

[text] Halle, 9 Dec (ADN)—Hans-Joachim Boehme, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Halle bezirk executive of the SED, on Wednesday received members of a study delegation of the German Communist Party (DKP) headed by Kurt Fritzsch, member of the Presidium and the Party Executive, which is on a visit to the GDR.

Hans-Joachim Boehme hailed the signing of the agreement on the removal of Soviet and U.S. nuclear medium-range weapons as a significant historic event. The peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and of Mikhail Gorbachev have thus led to great success. The treaty shows that the determined struggle for the ending of the arms race and disarmament, which the SED and the DKP regard as the most important task, is worthwhile.

With its ideological work, the bezirk party organization has succeeded, under the slogan "my workplace is my battle station for peace", in mobilizing the entire population of the bezirk to work harder for the further strengthening of socialism as the most important contribution to the securing of peace. Hans-Joachim Boehme reminded his guests of the official visit by Erich Honecker to the FRG, which reaffirmed the fact that the central issue in relations between the GDR and the FRG is the two states' joint responsibility for peace. Hans-Joachim Boehme said that the close relationship of trust with all the workers of the bezirk is a precondition for successfully continuing with new initiatives and the policy of the main task in its unity of economic and social policy.

Kurt Fritzsch reported on the actions of the DKP in the ranks of the forces for peace in the FRG and its struggle for the interests of the working people of the country. He stressed that the GDR's successes are a great inspiration for the communists of the FRG.

During their stay in the bezirk, the DKP members learned of the experiences of several kreis party organizations in the implementation of the resolutions of the 11th party congress of the SED.

Transit Point to West Berlin Replaced

DW100725 Hamburg ARD Television Network in German
1900 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Announcer-read report]

[Text] Today the GDR announced it will shut down the Staaken border crossing point to Berlin by the end of this year. A new crossing point at Stolte-Heiligensee will be opened to replace it, it was said. The Berlin Senate and the FRG Government deplore the decision. Government Spokesman Ost declared that Bonn will continue to work toward keeping open the Staaken crossing point.

Honecker Meets Italian Envoy

LD092221 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1501 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, 9 Dec (ADN)—Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of state, received on Wednesday Dr Alberto Indelicato, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Italian Republic, to be presented with his letter of credence. Ambassador Indelicato conveyed cordial greetings from Italian President Francesco Cossiga, as well as from Prime Minister Giovanni Goria, which were equally reciprocated by Erich Honecker.

The interlocutors praised the high level of relations between the two countries and stressed the will of both countries to deepen their mutually beneficial cooperation and to continue their trusting dialogue steadily, as a contribution to greater stability, and predictability in international relations.

Erich Honecker and Ambassador Indelicato welcomed the agreement on the elimination of the medium-range and operational-tactical nuclear missiles of the USSR and the United States, which was signed by Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan at their summit meeting in Washington. They agreed that the agreement had to be the starting point for further disarmament. The reduction of strategic offensive weapons and strengthening of the ABM Treaty was of particular importance in this context.

Erich Honecker wished Ambassador Indelicato much success in his responsible work.

SED CC Greets PCF's Marchais on Reelection

AU100838 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 8 Dec 87 p 1

["Cordial Congratulations to Georges Marchais on his Reelection; Telegram From the SED Central Committee to PCF General Secretary"]

[Text] East Berlin (ND)—The SED Central Committee has sent the following congratulatory telegram signed by General Secretary Erich Honecker to Georges Marchais, general secretary of the French Communist Party [PCF]:

Dear Comrade Georges Marchais: On your reelection as general secretary of the PCF I convey to you cordial congratulations and fraternal militant greetings on behalf of the SED Central Committee and on my own behalf.

We wish you much success for your responsible activity, good health and creative vigor for your struggle to safeguard peace in the interest of the working class and all working people of France.

With communist greetings, SED Central Committee E. Honecker, General secretary

Tisch, Schuerer Address FDGB Meeting

AU100842 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 5-6 Dec 87 p 2

[Excerpts] East Berlin (ADN)—Under the leadership of Harry Tisch, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the FDGB National Executive Council, the Presidium of the FDBG National Executive Council held talks on Friday [4 December] on the state of preparations for the 1988 national economic plan.

Gerhard Schuerer, candidate member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the State Planning Commission, reported on the main points of the draft of the 1988 national economic plan. He stressed that the fulfillment of the challenging tasks of the 1987 plan and the draft of the 1988 national economic plan are aimed at implementing the 11th SED Congress resolutions and at consistently continuing the economic strategy and the course of the main task of the unity of economic and social policy, adopted with a view to the year 2000. [passage omitted]

Harry Tisch emphasized that in the course of the plan discussion some 650,000 proposals and suggestions for opening up further reserves for a stable and dynamic development of the economic efficiency and for the improvement of the working and living conditions have been submitted. The plan discussion, in which more than 6.2 million trade union members have participated, is an expression of the vitality of socialist democracy. "Until the last day of the year 1987, the struggle for the complete product-related fulfillment and purposeful overfulfillment of the plan on the basis of good work and creative initiatives must be continued, Harry Tisch pointed out. [passage omitted]

People's Chamber Discusses Economic Draft Laws

LD082352 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1820 GMT 8 Dec 87

[Text] Berlin, 8 Dec (ADN)—The People's Chamber Industry, Construction and Transport Committee has discussed the draft laws on the economic plan and the state budget plan for 1988 under its chairman, Guenter Mittag, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee.

The goals and tasks of the 1988 economic plan are rigorously aimed at the further successful implementation of the decisions of the 11th SED Congress, said Mittag. The policy of the main task in its unity of economic and social policy was thus being continued to the benefit of the people. Strong economic growth would continue to be the basic precondition for improving the material and cultural living standard of the people in a planned way and for consistently strengthening further socialism and peace in the GDR. It is important everywhere to open up new sources of increasing performance and efficiency and thus make a greater contribution to strengthening the efficiency of the economy.

On behalf of the Council of Ministers, one of its members, Heinz Klopfer, secretary of state in the State Planning Commission, then moved the draft law on the 1988 economic plan. It was a priority to produce new products in high quality with highly productive automated technology. Labor productivity is to be purposefully increased through socialist rationalization. The draft plan was aimed at guaranteeing a larger economic final product with a lower input of energy and materials, a higher processing of all available raw materials, materials and sources of energy was well as rational use of energy.

Finance Minister Ernst Hoefner explained the draft law on the 1988 state budget. He explained how, in harmony with economic and social development, the continued stability of state finances is to be guaranteed also in the coming year, and the demands this will make on increasing efficiency in the economy. The minister outlined the tasks stipulated for lowering costs, for the generation of profits and good proceeds in foreign economic activity. The growing expenditure on science and technology and investment in the economy must be allocated efficiently and with higher economic results.

The GDR People's Chamber is to discuss the draft laws on the 1988 economic plan and the draft law on the 1988 state budget plan on 18 December.

Kessler Addresses Militia in Markkleeberg

LD100025 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1729 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Excerpt] Berlin, 9 Dec (ADN)—At a meeting in Markkleeberg on Wednesday, the commanders of the militia of the working class reported on the success of the training year and discussed new tasks. The conference was attended by the Defense Minister General Heinz Kessler, member of the Politburo of the SED Central Committee, and Horst Schumann, first secretary of the Leipzig Area Executive of the SED. Heinz Kessler passed on to the militia members the cordial greetings of Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State and National Defense Council. On behalf of the party and state leadership, the defense minister thanked the workers of the Leipzig Area for their great efforts in the implementation of the SED's policy, which is aimed at the welfare of the people and the securing of peace.

In his speech, General Heinz Kessler paid tribute to the treaty signed between the Soviet Union and the United States on the global removal of medium-and shorter-range missiles as an historic event, with which the first step has been made into the sphere of the particularly vital nuclear disarmament. The achievement of this treaty is a great triumph for the foces of peace, he stressed. Speaking of the military doctrine of the Warsaw Pact states, the speaker affirmed its consistently defensive nature, which derived from the nature of socialism. "Our military doctrine stipulates that no war—neither a nuclear nor a conventional one—should be permitted to happen," the speaker said. This end was also served by the struggle of the GDR soldiers for high battle readiness and fighting power.

Thus, the main task of the National People's Army, as the core of socialist national defense, was still, in accordance with the class duty laid down by the 11th SED Congress, to reliably protect the lives and peaceful work of the people and to ensure the inviolability of frontiers, in cooperation with the GDR protection and security forces, the Soviet Armed Forces, and the other fraternal armies. As an important part of the overall system of national defense, the militia of the working class would also implement the Leninist doctrine that only a revolution that can defend itself is worthwhile. [passage omitted]

Gorbachev-Reagan Summit Prompts Media Notice

'Humanity Desires Peace'

LD101043 Budapest MTI in English
0812 GMT 10 Dec 87

[Text] Budapest, December 10 (MTI)—The editorial in Thursday's MAGYAR HIRLAP deals with the Gorbachev-Reagan summit and the disarmament agreement signed Tuesday. The article notes:

"For the first time in the four-decades history of the nuclear age, the spiral of nuclear armament has been, since Tuesday evening, disrupted. True, the agreement results in only a slight, 3-4 per cent reduction of the huge stocks of the nuclear arsenal. But all this, as could be heard in the short, festive speeches, is only the first step according to the intentions of the great powers. The impatient encouragement is thus understandable: It is regular that the first should be followed by the second, a step of even greater dimensions, the 50 per cent reduction of the strategic weapons.

"Naturally, the agreement which envisages the destruction of some 2,000 warheads already has critics. It would be foolish to believe that, parallel to nuclear disarmament, the large-scale development of conventional armaments will not have its prophets. Certain NATO circles are already arguing that the alleged superiority of the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Treaty has to be made up for within the shortest possible time. It will doubtless be difficult to convince the nonbelievers that not only the chances of security, but of another world-wide catastrophe will increase with over-armament.

"Still, humanity desires peace and calm. A world in which the peoples of countries with different social and economic systems look on each other with mutual understanding and high respect. And this world can only be regulated by dialogue and such wise compromises as those which led to the moving moments Tuesday evening in the White House, the historical signing ceremony", notes, among others, the editorial in MAGYAR HIRLAP.

'Open Spirit' Applauded

LD091207 Budapest MTI in English
2314 GMT 8 Dec 87

[Text] Budapest, December 9 (MTI)—Even if they do nothing else at the present summit, Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan made history by the signature of the agreement of the double zero solution last night, states the Wednesday NEPSZABADSAG.

It is not a secret that the double zero option originates from the U.S. President, and it is also known that at the latest summit the Soviet general secretary had to do his best to persuade the president to accept his own proposal. The contradiction derives from the fact that when the proposal was first tabled early this decade, nobody really assumed that such an agreement would ever be concluded. However, at the middle of the decade a turn that took place in Moscow rejected the old cliches of domestic and international policy and sought new solutions to the new questions. This comprehensive and open spirit has shaken up not only Soviet diplomacy. The initiatives of the Kremlin has given unprecedented momentum to East-West dialogue. The merit of the summiteers is not lessened if we fit the Soviet-U.S. agreement in the process of its world policy antecedents. The agreement which has just been signed, and which, if we take the approval of all the countries concerned in deployment into consideration, reflects a broader East-West accord. Following many a missed chance, the Washington summit is the meeting where the opportunity has at last been grasped, notes NEPSZABADSAG.

SFRY's Dizdarevic Visit Reviewed

AU101233 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian
8 Dec 87 p 3

[MTI communique on Yugoslav foreign minister's visit]

[Text] Raif Dizdarevic, SFRY federal secretary for foreign affairs, paid an official and friendly visit to Hungary 5-7 December at the invitation of Peter Varkonyi, minister of Foreign Affairs.

During their talks, the two foreign ministers reviewed the state of bilateral relations and exchanged views on topical international issues.

Peter Varkonyi and Raif Dizdarevic concluded that the friendly and good-neighborly relations between the two countries are developing fruitfully in all areas. They expressed the intentions of their governments to expand the mutually advantageous multilateral relations.

They unanimously evaluated the economic cooperation between the two countries as successful. They stressed that by making increased use of the mutual advantages derived from the two countries' proximity of location and by introducing up-to-date forms of cooperation in new areas, this level of cooperation also provides a firm foundation for development under more difficult conditions.

The officials concluded with satisfaction that the substantial cooperation carried out in the areas of science, culture, and education is based on rich traditions, and further possibilities emerge for the development of this cooperation. The two ministers positively evaluated the expansion of the contacts of individuals and the increasingly substantial direct cooperation between border towns and districts. The two sides used this opportunity to again express high appreciation for the role played by the Hungarian national minority living in Yugoslavia and of the Croatian, Serbian, and Slovenian minorities living in Hungary in deepening the good-neighborly relations and friendship between the peoples of the two countries. The two ministers stressed the importance of mutual assistance provided to maintain the minorities' mother tongue and cultural traditions and to develop the direct contacts between them.

The two foreign ministers welcomed the new initiatives in the international life, initiatives that strengthen detente. They evaluated the regular dialogue between the two superpowers as a factor of determining importance in the favorable development of the international atmosphere. They praised the historical importance of the Soviet-U.S. summit and the agreement on the reduction of nuclear arms to be signed at the summit. They spoke with appreciation about the peace initiatives of the socialist countries and their international reaction, as well as about the important role played by the nonaligned countries in the international life.

The two ministers expressed their countries' determination to make the process of detente a durable one. They attributed an important role to the active cooperation of medium-size and small countries in this process. They took a stand in favor of developing the multilateral cooperation in Europe and strengthening the atmosphere of peaceful coexistence, good neighborliness, confidence, and mutual understanding. They stressed their countries' interest in the soonest possible conclusion of the Vienna follow-up conference with the adoption of a substantial final document that would ensure the possibilities of progress.

The talks were held in an atmosphere of traditional friendship and mutual understanding. The talks contributed to the development of the good-neighborly relations and broad cooperation between the two countries.

Raif Dizdarevic invited Peter Varkonyi to a visit in Yugoslavia, and he accepted the invitation with thanks.

Berecz Discusses 'Successes' in Development
AU091520 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 5 Dec 87 p 1

[Interview with Janos Berecz, member of the MSZMP Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, by RABOTNICHESKO DELO "representative" during the latter's stay in Sofia—date of interview not given]

[Text] [RABOTNICHESKO DELO] Comrade Berecz, under the MSZMP leadership the Hungarian working people have achieved remarkable successes in their country's social, economic, and intellectual development. Can you describe Hungary's stands at the present stage of development, as a country which is building the material and cultural foundations of socialist society at accelerated rates?

[Berecz] We have the feeling, and this was stated by our MSZMP Central Committee as well, that despite existing difficulties and worries, our people are justifiably proud of the results of their efforts. It is an undeniable truth that, in the last two and a half decades, our country's national income increased approximately 3 times. Industrial production increased 3.5 times, while agricultural production doubled, and the consumption rate, as well as the real incomes of the population increased 2.5 times.

The present situation in our country was influenced to a great extent by the radical changes in the world economy during the seventies. These changes, as well as the new conditions of building socialist society which have appeared in our country, together with the transition to intensive economy are imposing new requirements. They confronted our country with more extensive and more difficult tasks than those of the past. We must clearly understand that our national economy only partially responded to the new challenge, and therefore, our adjustment to the new situation was delayed. Our economic difficulties increased as a result of all this. Naturally, we are clearly aware of the fact that the establishment of a socialist society is a process extending over an entire historical era. Its tasks and the method of their implementation cannot be eternally valid and irreversible. On the contrary, socialism must always be able to outgrow yesterday's size. Consistency and innovation are organically linked to each other in the process of development. This implies that it is not sufficient just to reject the views and methods of the fifties in order to promote the development of socialism, that it is not enough to apply a doctrinaire elimination of these methods, based on abstract, moral principles. This evaluation should not be regarded as a "modernization" process in the narrow, literal sense of this term, but as a series of changes and transformations which the socialist countries are implementing by preserving their values and goals within the framework of a permanent, self-regulating process. It is our resolute intention to accelerate this process in our country according to our possibilities.

[RABOTNICHESKO DELO] The second half of this year was marked by important domestic political events in your country—sessions of the MSZMP Central Committee and a program adopted by the government on economic stabilization and on the expanding process of profound social and economic reforms. How can you describe the tasks of primary importance to which the Hungarian people are now devoting their efforts?

[Berecz] It is an inevitable historical necessity for us to draw closer to the front ranks of world-wide development. This is why we must give new impetus to innovations and reforms in all areas of social life. Today we are paying particular attention to the tasks of economic development, to the expansion of the party's ideological work, to the improvement of management.

We are aware of the fact that the most important element of innovation, today and in the near future, is the modernization of our economy. This is why the consistent implementation of economic reforms in our country is the decisive problem at the present stage of our development.

The stand of the MSZMP Central Committee on the program of socioeconomic development and the working program of the government adopted at the September session of our Parliament, is based on the idea that progress can be achieved only if, on the basis of the unity and mutual influence of social and economic processes, we promote a policy of reforms encompassing all spheres. This policy which is in accordance with the present situation, in accordance with the realities of domestic and foreign affairs, emphasizes the necessity of change. We consider it as particularly important that the reform measures should be mutually coordinated and that they should strictly conform with the specific features characterizing the development of individual spheres of social life.

Reforms also extend to innovations in the substance and meaning of our social life, as well as to changes in the practical work of individual institutions. This is why a further development of political administration is inevitable, as well—it is necessary at the present moment to organize party work in accordance with the new requirements and to improve our style of work, as well as to innovate in its methods.

It is inadmissible to postpone the urgent and necessary reforms under the pretext of preserving stability. Our experience shows that half-hearted measures and irresolute actions, as well as possible compromises are likely to provoke situations of crisis.

We know that there is no such thing as an ideal system, free of all contradictions and endowed with positive qualities only—such an ideal society is nothing but a romantic illusion. We are clearly aware that innovation through reforms involves sacrifices and undesirable side effects. In implementing such innovations we cannot exclude the possibility of shortcomings and misunderstandings. We must consciously prepare to meet such phenomena. Nevertheless, their influence should be restricted to the minimum and their duration should be reduced as much as possible.

The path we have embarked upon is inevitable. We must proceed on it, even if practical and theoretical experience which help us in this development should prove insufficient. It is only along this path that we will be able to achieve our constructive goals. In their scope and substance, the tasks we are facing can be only compared with with those which socialism had to cope several decades ago when it was beginning to build its existence.

Our development program is planned on a long-term basis, since its goal is to enable Hungarian society, with persevering efforts, to establish a modern socialist society, capable of competing with the most developed nations. Our socioeconomic development program envisages the achievement of this goal in two stages. During the first stage (the stabilization stage) our primary task is to halt the present unfavorable trends and to improve our domestic and foreign economic balance, as well as to introduce changes in the economic structure and to speed up the rates of development.

Nevertheless, a substantial improvement of living conditions can be achieved only during the second stage. Following the successful accomplishment of the first stage, the economic growth will be intensified and this will serve as a basis for the improvement of the living standard.

[RABOTNICHESKO DELO] Can you describe the essential conclusions resulting from the recent MSZMP Central Committee plenum devoted to ideological work and the factors determining the necessity of discussing the leading role of the party in Hungarian society at one of the forthcoming sessions?

[Berecz] One of the most important decisions determining our future tasks is to purge our ideas about socialism from gross simplifications and from those speculative models which, in the course of our development, "stuck" to the theoretical foundations of Marxism-Leninism. At the same time, we must make people familiar with those postulates which determine the trend of our activities. This is why we decided to submit the draft resolution to public discussion and to set forth our stand by relying on the opinions, additional suggestions, and the advice of the collectives of various social organizations.

Such a broad discussion will be an important factor in our political life and in further expanding our socialist democracy. Despite the fact that the party is the central force of our political system, it is reluctant to speak on behalf of the people, or in the people's name without consulting them about their aspirations and about the methods and forms of implementing their own interests. According to our view, a political system is efficient only when the members of society find their respective fields of activities and opportunities of development. This prompts us to pay particular attention to the party's leading role in our present-day society.

The conclusions drawn by the MSZMP Central Committee from the open and frank analysis of the situation explain the topical nature of this question. It is a fact that the economic difficulties which are accumulating and the sociopolitical tension which inevitably accompanies them, as well as shortcomings in party work, and the disturbances in the functioning of the political institutions' system require an unmistakable understanding of things and a correct response. To postpone or protract the solution of these questions would cause a delay in the pace of our economic development.

We understand the leading role of the party as service to the people and as a basis of mutual confidence. It is precisely because we are "one party" that we must require openness and inexorable frankness from ourselves. We must comply with this requirement in mapping out the tasks and responsibilities of the party, as well. We understand the leading role of the party as nothing else but the ability to determine the chief trends of social development, of selecting the most favorable solution in coordinating interests, and of explaining social development to a wide circle of people and making them accept it through persuasion; we understand the leading role of the party as the organizer of social development and of political control. This is how we will determine our attitude to current social processes, not with a professional, but with a political approach, and we will refrain from assuming state-administative, as well as purely professional functions.

It is our intention to propose all this to the discussion of a wide circle of party members, because as it has appeared from our hitherto accomplished work we attach great importance to an open and sincere exchange of views, which in our opinion, contributes to the implementation of Marxist-Leninist theory.

State Minister Holding Contacts in Hungary

TA091748 Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish
1700 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] State Minister Kazim Oksay, currently on an official visit to Hungary, is continuing his contacts in Budapest. Today he met with Hungarian Industry Minister Laszlo Kapolyi. The two ministers discussed the industries in Turkey and Hungary and explored possibilities for cooperation in the fields of natural gas, medical and chemical materials, railroads, buses, coal, subways, and light industry. It was reported that Oksay and Kapolyi agreed to increase bilateral trade in a balanced way.

Oksay also met with Tamas Beck, chairman of the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce; and Peter Lorincze, its secretary general. Before arriving in Hungary Oksay also visited Romania, where he held talks aimed at increasing bilateral cooperation in various areas.

Dutch Labor Party Delegation Visits

Kadar Meets Officials

LD261539 Budapest MTI in English
1355 GMT 26 Nov 87

[Text] Budapest, November 26 (MTI)—On Thursday Janos Kadar, general secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, met at the Central Committee headquarters in Budapest the delegation of the Dutch Labour Party visiting Hungary under Wim Kok, head of the party's parliamentary faction on the invitation of the HSWP Central Committee. The delegation includes Marjanne Sint, chairman of the Dutch Labour Party, and Jan Marinus Wiersma, party secretary for foreign affairs.

At the talks, attended by Attila Gecse, deputy head of the Central Committee Foreign Affairs Department, views were exchanged on a few topical issues of international life and the possibilities for the development of inter-party cooperation. It was stated that under the present system of international relations the safeguarding of peace has become the principal universal interest of humankind. Participants pointed out that the intensification of dialogue between Communists and Social Democrats serves the cause of strengthening international peace and security and the development of European cooperation. In this context, they appreciated the informal Moscow meeting of the Communist, Socialist, Social Democratic and other progressive democratic parties and movements. They welcomed the Soviet-U.S. summit meetings to be held in Washington in December and the agreement on the abolition of medium- and shorter-range nuclear devices to be signed, and stressed the need for continued efforts to ensure a military balance between the two alliance systems on the lowest possible level of armed forces and armaments, in keeping with the demands of reciprocal security.

Sides Survey Issues, Affairs

LD291809 Budapest MTI in English
1547 GMT 29 Nov 87

[Text] Budapest, November 29 (MTI)—The delegation of the Labour Party of the Netherlands, which had paid a visit to Hungary from November 25 to 29 under the leadership of Wim Kok, parliamentary leader of the party, left Hungary on Sunday. The delegation which was invited by the HSWP Central Committee included Marjanne Sin, president, and Jan Marinus Wiersma, secretary of foreign affairs.

The delegation met Janos Kadar, general secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, Sandor Gaspar, president of the Central Council of Trade Unions, Miklos Ovari, secretary of the HSWP Central Committee, members of the Political Committee. The delegation also met Geza Kotai, head of the CC'S Foreign Affairs Department, Imre Pozsgay, general secretary of the Patriotic People's Front, and Peter Varkonyi, foreign minister, members of the HSWP CC.

In cordial talks the sides surveyed some important international affairs, informed one another of the topical tasks of their parties, and examined the possibilities of developing inter-party relations. They stated that the dialogue aimed at creating a better understanding between communists and social democrats contributes to the strengthening of international peace and security, and an improvement in the conditions of multilateral cooperation in Europe. It was stressed that wide-scale international cooperation is essential for solving the global issues of mankind, for halting the arms race, promoting disarmament, establishing a more just and more efficient international economic order, and protecting the environment.

Varkonyi Discusses East-West Relations

AU091521 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 5 Dec 87 p 3

[Article by Foreign Minister Peter Varkonyi: "With An Active Foreign Policy"]

[Text] We are approaching the end of the year. The end of the year is always the time to render the accounts; this time, however, our attention is not drawn primarily by the results achieved so far, but by the possibilities of the future that is emerging in the midst of our present-day problems. The question is: What does the international environment have in store for Hungary next year? What will the development of international relations be like—developments to which we will have to adjust—and how can we develop these relations ourselves?

Active Dialogue [subhead]

The answer is facilitated by the fact that the new Soviet-U.S. summit to commence on 7 December—an event justifiably called the major world political event of the year—is scheduled to take place in the last month of the year. The summit is proof that there are possibilities of strengthening the favorable processes in international conditions. To strive to ease the international atmosphere and to improve East-West relations is a realistic goal. Thus, the foreign policy balance of the currently ending year gives cause for hope as a whole; primarily because, as a result of an accelerated, high-level Soviet-U.S. dialogue that has also become more regular and more substantial, an agreement on disarmament with regard to medium- and shorter-range missiles is ready to be signed. The highest-level political approval of this accord will be the clearest and most concrete result of the Washington summit. In addition to signing the agreement, the importance of the summit can also increase if the sides succeed in outlining ways of progress in other areas of disarmament, in developing the constructive relations between the two world powers, in eliminating the focal points of crises, and in generally making the favorable trends in the international situation something lasting.

The presence and effects of favorable international processes and conditions can be seen primarily in the fact that there has been a genuine strengthening of joint responsibility in East-West relations concerning safeguarding peace and recognizing the necessity for cooperation in dealing with and solving international problems. The reform process emerging in the Soviet Union, China, and other socialist countries, a process that enables the comprehensive social and economic renewal of the entire socialist world, is playing an increasing role in international relations and in the possibilities of cooperation.

Therefore, we can justifiably answer that things are promising, as regards the possibilities of the near future. The East-West relations, including the development of Soviet-U.S. relations, contain objective conditions which not only enable but also require an expansion of the scope of Hungarian foreign policy. For a long time, our foreign policy has been tryng to make the most efficient use possible of our special conditions for the benefit of developing the East-West relations. Our international activity, based on the realistic possibilities of cooperation in Europe, and our building of relations based on the coordination of interests and on mutual advantages have strengthened the trustworthiness of our foreign policy, have contributed to the international respect for Hungary, and have made Hungary a factor with an independent character on the European political stage. Naturally, the increasing possibilities and tasks of our international activity also increase, the responsibility of Hungarian foreign policy. Since the Hungarian People's Republic is regarded as an active factor in the overall European political dialogue, the weight of our words and the expectations concerning our positions and proposals require proper consideration and a sense of reality. This is particularly true of our international activity concerning security and arms limitation, and the development and strengthening of this activity are also required by our allies.

In the area of international security, we regard the reduction of the role played by armaments and military factors as the major goal and as one of the areas of our foreign policy activity that requires the greatest activity and acceptance of responsibility. In accordance with this, we are taking our share of the initiatives in the socialist countries' efforts to establish a comprehensive system of international peace and security.

We believe that the United Nations—a forum of cooperation between countries of different social order, economic development, and size, a forum that cannot be replaced by anything else—is the sole forum to guarantee such a system. We are convinced that the United Nations still has a considerable number of unexploited possibilities and potentials that can be mobilized to implement goals formulated in its Charter.

Furthering the 1986 Budapest Appeal of the Warsaw Pact member countries and urging its implementation are tasks of ours that are increasing coming to the fore. A considerable reduction of the armed forces and conventional weapons in Europe has become a key issue. The interest in negotiations has also increased in Western European countries. Parallel with the Vienna follow up conference on the Helsinki process, consultations are under way between the Warsaw Pact and the NATO member countries on the mandate of new negotiations as part of the process of security and cooperation in Europe, and on the formulation of the goals and content of these negotiations. Together with our allies, we are striving, by considerably reducing the current military confrontation, to gradually attain a situation at the talks in which both sides will maintain the level of military force and armament that is needed only for defense purposes. For our part, in the past year we were striving to reveal and make use of all the opportunities offered by the process of European security for the development of bilateral and multilateral relations. Therefore, parallel with our domestic development, we often also initiated the deepening of cooperation in sensitive areas like, for example, human relations, and humanitarian cooperation. Our efforts aimed at eliminating the need for visas, efforts that have so far met with a positive response from Austria, Finland, Sweden, and Malta, are a good example of such Hungarian initiatives.

The outlines of an agreement concerning the important issues of Europe-wide economic cooperation are also emerging. The outlines of progress in human rights, information, culture, education, relations between people and institutions, and in the issue of the "human dimension" are still undeveloped. The formulation of the final document is progressing slowly, primarily as a result of the differences of views existing in this area. Hungary has also done a lot in this area for the practical implementation of cooperation norms formulated in the documents of the European security process.

Valuable Sources [Subhead]

At the Vienna talks, our delegation is striving for the soonest possible development of realistic compromises to bridge the differences of interests and positions in all controversial issues and, together with other countries, Hungary has made several proposals and is also urging for practical steps. For well-known reasons, the Hungarian People's Republic considers it important to have the proposals on the obligation to ensure the rights of national minorities accepted and included in the final document. Improving the conditions of the national minorities, ensuring cultural and human relations, as well as mother-tongue instruction across borders, and facilitating the promotion of national culture will all continue to be our lasting goal in the future.

With our active international activity and initiatives, we must now contribute primarily to the implementation of the MSZMP Central Committee position of July 1987 and of the stabilization program adopted by the National Assembly in September 1987. This means the efficient representation and assertion of our political and economic interests, and the safeguarding of Hungary's international prestige. Hungary's international prestige is a valuable resource for us. Hungary's standing abroad continues to be favorable, although our real problems, difficulties, and mistakes inevitably appeared in the evaluation of our economic performance in the last 1 or 2 years. Since the adoption of the program of economic stabilization, however, confidence in Hungary is again on the rise, and so is readiness for cooperation. Our measures aimed at further developing the reforms have met with a favorable international reaction.

The development of our multilateral cooperation with the socialist countries, primarily with the Soviet Union, and bringing the common interests and mutual advantages to the surface were also first among our foreign policy tasks in 1987. One favorable circumstance is that, as a result of the concurrence of our efforts aimed at social and economic renewal, we have experienced a considerable interest toward our reforms on the part of the Soviet Union.

In addition to the responsible promotion of the friendly relations, this requires an active attitude that takes into consideration real interests in all areas of our future cooperation. In developing our relations with other socialist countries, we will continue to strive for a wide range of cooperation and for the implementation of increasingly up-to-date forms of contacts. New opportunities have emerged in Hungarian-Chinese relations. We regard it as important to make the fullest possible use of these opportunities.

Issues of multilateral socialist cooperation have also played a great role in Hungary's foreign policy this year. Perfecting the coordination of interests aimed at working out joint initiatives, enriching the content of our economic cooperation, and modernizing the state of its organization have been at the center of our tasks.

This year Hungarian diplomacy has been active in creating an agreement between Hungary and the EEC, including the establishment of diplomatic relations. The goal of our negotiations is to come to an agreement which would ensure our rights and conditions of discrimination-free trade—primarily the elimination of the quantitative restrictions currently in force—between Hungary and the EEC.

Another goal we set in 1987 was the further expansion of our relations with the capitalist countries by deepening our political dialogue and making it permanent, and by encouraging the readiness for mutually advantageous cooperation. The majority of these countries expressed interest in the success of our social and economic development program. Several capitalist countries showed evidence of their readiness for cooperation. In the course of developing our relations, we will endeavor to make use of this readiness for cooperation for the benefit of our social and economic goals. We think that the further deepening of the relations we have developed so far with the United States, the FRG, and with other leading Western European powers will provide an adequate foundation for this endeavor. The interest in Hungary manifested by the governments of smaller NATO countries promise further possibilities. These countries desire the strengthening of our bilateral relations, and they often make proposals for concrete cooperation which coincide with our desires and efforts. We must discover and use these possibilities properly in building up confidence and in seeking up-to-date forms of cooperation.

We also wish to continue to expand the mutually advantageous relations with the developing countries. The interest these countries in Hungary—including an increase in economic cooperation—is also increasing.

We are living in an age in which solving the real problems of the world situation only by means of conventional diplomacy, is inconceivable. Today, promoting an active and continuous high-level political dialogue and relations between heads of states is not only possible, but also necessary. Consequently, dealing with foreign policy issues and relations increasingly requires the attention of the high-level political leaders. In connection with this, I would like to mention briefly the wide range of international activity carried out by our party and state leaders: Janos Kadar's visit to Moscow, Beijing, and Brussels; Wojciech Jaruzelski's visit to Budapest; President Karoly Nemeth's tour of Latin America; the visits to Budapest by the King of Spain and the Queen of Denmark; and the visits our Premier Karoly Grosz paid to the Soviet Union, Poland, the FRG, and Greece, as well as his talks with the CSSR and Austrian Government heads in Budapest.

Joint Initiatives [subhead]

High-level political contacts serve well the representation of our national interests and give impetus to the development of bilateral relations. These contacts also play an increasingly important role in deepening the favorable international processes and in increasing confidence that is so important in the relations between states. The meetings between statesmen and leading politicians, as well as their personal acquaintance give political wishes and positions a human touch.

On the basis of the experiences of 1987, we are counting on a further strengthening of the favorable trend in international relations in 1988, and the trend of detente will prevail in the international situation in spite of the exacerbation effects of the crises that are still unsolved. Therefore, the horizon of our foreign policy and of our international relations will broaden at a faster pace than was characteristic of recent decades. There are no insurmountable obstacles hindering the implementation of our determined reform program, and it can count on the support of our allies and the cooperation of our partners. Of course, the continuation of our favorable international standing will depend primarily on the consistency of our reform measures and their success. At the same time, our increasing foreign policy activity, its readiness for initiatives, its openness, and its continued dynamism serve the implementation of the goals of our country that is engaged in socialist construction.

Premier Grosz Discusses Economic Tasks

AU091231 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 3 Dec 87 p 5

[Interview with Premier Karoly Grosz by MAGYAR HIRLAP Deputy Chief Editor Andras Tabori and Economic Policy Columnist Istvan Matko: "Consistently—Without Illusions"; in Miskolc, following conclusion of 2 December conference]

[Text] Following the meeting between the government and the heads of enterprises in Miskolc, Premier Karoly Grosz gave an interview to MAGYAR HIRLAP.

[Tabori, Matko] Today the planned series of enterprise consultations has ended here in Miskolc. Why did you consider this dialogue to be necessary?

[Grosz] I started from the fact that, in recent years and primarily for objective reasons, a tension has emerged between the enterprises and the government. This tension is given many names, a crisis of confidence, lack of harmony, or impatience, and I felt that this was not a good thing, because it is impossible to seek optimal solutions in such a nervous atmosphere. It is now clear to everyone, both to the government and the enterprises, that we can advance only through compromises. In a clear economic situation, and under circumstances of economic growth and upward trends, such an atmosphere has no importance, because even if everyone grumbles, the economy, nevertheless, develops dynamically. In the current situation, however, when we have to deal with a situation closely resembling an economic crisis and in which the social side-effects are not insignificant, we cannot work together without a dialogue. Of course, there can be many forms of cooperation, and I do not think that these meetings are the only forms that fulfill this demand. But I consider it important for the government as a community to meet with communities. There are quite frequent meetings between ministers and enterprise leaders, but there are relatively few meetings between the government as a body and the enterprise leaders as a community.

Things Upon Which the Government Can Rely [Subhead]

At these three meetings one could notice their special atmosphere, characterized by openness and sincerity, but also by disciplined self-control. In spite of the hard criticism, the speeches were formulated more objectively, and this is natural because, if we meet in a small friendly circle, one's imagination and judgment becomes freer. In more objective exchanges of views, of course, one can also find in a more objective way the characteristics of situation analysis and the methods leading to solutions. We can agree with the speech given today that claimed that impatience and great haste are no good. This is also important because there is also considerable pressure on the government: "Look, it just talks but does nothing." It transpires, however, that in the calm atmosphere of a dialogue there is also counter pressure on which the government can indeed rely.

For me, this series of dialogues is one instrument of making sure that relations between the government and the enterprises are characterized by more balanced and more harmonious cooperation. Of course, this cooperation is not free of conflicts and debates, but this is part of our life, and not a matter of intention. I must also add that, although I do not know whether I am completely right in this, making a decision is another matter when we know those from whom we demand the implementation of these decisions. The leadership style has become slightly impersonal, and I would like to see a development of cooperation based on principles and aimed at human and common interests.

The Circle of Leaders [subhead]

[Tabori, Matko] How do you evaluate this circle of leaders now, on the basis of experiences drawn from the recent consultations?

[Grosz] I think the tension is slowly easing. I can prove this, not only by means of the atmosphere of these meetings, but also by the fact that people wrote us from several counties and asked us to organize such meetings there. I also receive letters in which enterprise leaders write their observations connected with the consultations; people whom we did not even invite to the consultations. I could mention other examples to prove my feeling that this initiative was received with sympathy.

As to the way in which I evaluate the community of enterprise leaders, well, this community is made up of approximately 1,200 leaders in industry, and a large circle of agricultural cooperative and state farm leaders. If I take a look at this economic unit made up of approximately 3,000 people, I can say that the picture is quite colorful. It would be difficult to group them on the basis of organizational principles. I have always condemned classifications such as young people, elderly people, or the professional areas in which people work. It is also difficult to judge all this on the basis of the achievements of an enterprise, because, in addition to the international conditions, previous domestic conditions play a considerable role in the achievements of an enterprise. In fact, it is very difficult to develop an objective scale to classify the leaders into good, medium, and bad ones. Therefore, I tried to collect within myself special organizational principles for this judgment. I do not think that this is scientifically exact, but perhaps this is adequate for our conditions.

One of these principles is the extent to which a leader is open, creative, and searches for new things, and how he tries to make use of his own potential in order to promote development. It is clear that this cannot be measured in forints, because 1 centimeter of progress in some places needs more effort than 1 meter of progress in other places. The other organizational principle, that is very important for me is the extent to which a leader can deal with the community in which he lives and works. If my conviction that it is impossible to deal with the current economic conflicts only by economic means and that political means are also necessary is true, then this is particularly important. The government, and I, myself, have to learn to reason with the enterprise leaders, and they have to learn to do the same in their dealings with the foremen, the engineers, and the workers. My third organizational principle, and perhaps this is highly questionable, is the way an enterprise leader regards the prospects for development beyond the problems of today, and whether he sees such prospects at all. There is a strong tendency to solve the conflicts today at the price of selling the future. The depth of thinking in the present and the future is, in my view, among the organizational principles, because a government and an enterprise leader cannot think only in terms of how long he is going to be there, or how long he will live. Responsible government and enterprise leaders must also weigh the importance of their current deeds for the future. I regard this as a moral obligation for myself, and therefore perhaps I have the right to also judge this as a moral obligation on the part of the leaders of a local community. I repeat that these organizational principles are not scientific and people cannot be classified anywhere on the basis of these principles. Many factors have to be taken into consideration, but the above-mentioned ones also play a role in enabling us to form an opinion in the course of government activity.

It is also clear, let me mention this too, that there are people who can only advance beyond their own performance with a great struggle. I do not see a lack of ambition or indifference here, nor their giving up. But I do see that many leaders find it very difficult to cope with conflicts. The life-style, education level, amount of experience, and the situation of the moment all play a role in this, that is, many human features that influence this attitude; and, analyzing the situation from this point of view, the situation is very diverse.

On the Eve of a New Year [subhead]

[Tabori, Matko] The National Assembly session is approaching, and 1988 is around the corner. On the basis of almost 6 months of experience as premier, how do you evaluate this year's achievements and the plan for next year, and, will the country's problems become more severe?

[Grosz] The problems facing the country will definitely become more difficult, not for one second has there been any argument about this. For a long time, I did not understand precisely, and today I already understand—and this was also mentioned at the current consultations—that, following the government session in September, great illusions have arisen and considerable impatience has also emerged claiming that there is inaction. Today I already understand the components and motives behind this attitude, but all we had in mind when preparing the program—and we wrote that clearly, it can be read—was to set a single goal for ourselves: To halt the increase in our stock of debts. We also took into account the fact that we would have to face the consequences of this goal by reducing tensions to the lowest possible level.

As regards the current year, this would in fact have been a quite successful year if we had not had this bad luck, because industry has performed well, its efficiency has considerably improved, but we are short of 1.5 million tonnes of grain as a result of the reduced yield. We are short of this, not in our exports, but in our income as a whole. The changes in the exchange rate of various hard currencies, even without knowing the final extent, have also increased our losses by hundreds of millions. All these factors together led to the same kind of bad increase in debts as last year.

As regards next year's plan, under current conditions it would be difficult to formulate a more optimal plan than this one. Maybe we could still perfect one or another of its figures, but in my opinion this is the best version. Those who prepared the plan, and not only the National Planning Office—although they put a lot of work into it—but also the ministries and the enterprises, carried out tremendous work in preparing this plan. Another thing that I find important in the plan for 1988 is the fact that it has the very courageous goal of reducing the increase in our stock of debts by close to half. In accordance with this, of course, the plan also wants to reduce the domestic financial balance deficit, in harmony with this reduction of debts.

Although we are confident that this will take place, we will propose to parliament, in order to also constrain ourselves, the setting up of a 10 billion forint reserve, and we will first propose that the government ask Parliament's approval for the use of this reserve. Nobody forces us to make this proposal, but we do so because we also want to create a compelling instrument of control for ourselves. I know that this concept can be attacked because this is already a step toward undesirable areas, in which Parliament is dealing with details of government activity, and we do not want a parliament that governs; in this case, however—and this is not a model situation—under the current critical conditions, it is highly important for the government to ask for supervision of its own activity. This is as if a retailer asked for an inventory of his own activity. The new tax system will come into effect in 1988. When I was in Greece recently I consulted experts on this subject and it seems that it does not work smoothly there either. Their goal is to reduce their high inflation rate to under 20 percent, and, in this first year, they seem to have failed to do this. This led to the resignation of the minister of national economy while we where there. The introduction of a tax system is a great task for which the political milieu is not the most suited. This causes great fear, and has even reached the level of hysteria in places; and the lack of confidence has increased considerable. This could lead to haste on the part of the leadership and would cause great problems, and could have unpredictable consequences. If we make concessions in 1988 on the basis of elements of mood, and since compromise is already part of the system, then our country will collapse economically. I am stating this, fully aware of my responsibility. We can live with a little compromise here or there, but we cannot avoid the basic issue, namely, that a new attitude and new concept is needed. The tax system is a big step toward a clearer insight. I do not mean collapse because of the tax system. We could have managed without it for 1 or 2 years, but we could not manage without changing the situation—and the tax system is one instrument of achieving that.

Personal Affairs and Political Culture [subhead]

The government, therefore, should be consistent and stick to its line. At the same time, however, consistency should not lead to rigidity; changes should be made when it becomes clear in the course of the activity that something is not correct. We should have the courage to face up to our own weaknesses or to our bad decisions. From this point of view, the political culture in Hungary is not the most suitable—and I would like to point this out too. It has already been said here, and therefore I mention the fact that, in an extremely peculiar, way, people in Hungary think primarily in terms of individuals' activity in connection with processes. In Greece I watched how the above mentioned minister resigned. There was argument between the prime minister and the minister over only one question, namely, whether to refund 5 percent of the inflation burden to the workers or not. The prime minister said yes, the economic minister said no. They could not come to an agreement on this and the minister wrote a polite letter to the prime minister, which was read on television, so we could hear it. He wrote that he thanked him for his cooperation, and that they had achieved many things together, but, on this issue, he was sticking to his own principled position and asked that they not work together in the future. In his answer, the prime minister thanked him for his cooperation and pointed out that he understood the minister's position and hoped that they would be able to work well together in his new position, and then, the minister left for the financial world. Both letters were read on television, people were not shocked and there was no gossip about a conflict between the two officials. In Hungary? If here a minister makes a move, then a great affair is made out of it; if he does not make a move, then a great affair is made out of the fact. This is not good because, this way, it is much more difficult to adjust the personel issues—as personnel conditions—to the changing circumstances.

Concept and Man [subhead]

[Tabori, Matko] What do you think: Is it possible to settle these personel conditions according to proper criteria?

[Grosz] If the above mentioned conclusion were true, that we must not decide on the basis of elements of mood, then this is all the more true regarding the personal issues. I have a thoroughly thought out concept about this which was born out of a lot of suffering, namely that one should first thoroughly consider the situation and the strategy. This was done at the Parliament session in September. Then, we should thoroughly examine the organization and find a system of institution that can fulfill this concept. Third, we should look for the people who fit into all this. In other words, we should not seek concepts for people and organizations for people, but the other way round. On the other hand, since there will be many uncertain factors in 1988, it is impossible to form a new government, as one would say, overnight. Although this is possible from an organization point of view, but then, I would raise the risk factor, and I am not ready to accept that nobody could blame me if I am unable to evaluate the risks of the international financial world. But I can definitely be blamed for not being calm enough and considerate concerning personnel issues. Concerning the steps we could take now, it is not some kind of political barrier or hindering position of a body that has to be overcome, but what is needed is an evaluation of the situation, proper dealing with the situation, and the formulation of calmly considered steps.

The way I see it, therefore, is that what is essential is that this cannot be done overnight, only gradually, but it should be done. Gradually means not that it will be finished in 1990 because it is impossible to keep a leadership in a constant state of nervousness. I think, however, that, within a set period, let us say during a year, we can create all the personnel conditions that are necessary for the requirements. I would like, however, to make an observation here: I cannot accept it as a way of doing business when, after taking steps and making a mistake somewhere, we do not make corrections only because we have just elected someone or elected him half a year ago. What I am saying is this: We should, of course, not make hasty decisions, but in cases where decisions or the evaluation of ourselves are needed—and these are needed also in personnel issues—there we have to act. And nobody can give guarantees that there are no mistakes in personnel issues. And not because we want to err but because, if someone is suitable for one position, it is not sure that he will be also suitable in another position under different circumstances. This should not be dramatized, but the hysterical situation that has developed in connection with this, the "well informed situation," the self-importance experienced in Hungary, and the unbearable petty bourgeois concept and attitude concerning this issue do not make government activities easier, on the contrary, they hinder them.

[Tabori, Matko] Thank you for the interview!

Further Reportage on Reactions to INF Treaty

'Equal Security' Cited

LD091448 Warsaw PAP in English 1335 GMT 9 Dec 87

["Polish Government's Statement on INF Treaty"—PAP headline]

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 9—The Polish Government welcomed with deep satisfaction the signing of the Soviet-U.S. INF treaty. As early as in the course of negotiations on that subject, the Polish Government presented its stand on the significance of the treaty for the initiation of the process of real nuclear disarmament.

The signing of the treaty proves that despite differences between both sides, through mutual concessions, it is possible to reach disarmament agreements based on the principle of equal security. Moreover, it shows that putting this principle into practice helps effectively overcome difficulties emerging in the process of negotiating disarmament treaties, especially on such issues as methods of reductions or inspection procedures.

The signing of the INF treaty constitutes an important stage of the implementation of the programme of freeing the world of the threat of a nuclear war mapped out by Mikhail Gorbachev.

The successful conclusion of negotiations in this respect created a beneficial point of departure for further disarmament negotiations. The Polish Government voices the hope that the hitherto created chances of solving other disarmament problems, with special regard to a 50 per cent reduction of nuclear strategic weapons arsenals will be fully used.

We have welcomed with deep satisfaction the fact that the process of nuclear disarmament begins from Europe. This corresponds to our traditional line of foreign policy on this so important a question for European security. In the past this was reflected by the 1957 Adam Rapacki Plan on the creation of atom-free zones, and by the 1963 Wladyslaw Gomulka Plan on the freezing of nuclear armaments. Of late, this has been developed in the Jaruzelski plan of decreasing armaments and increasing confidence in central Europe.

The Government of the Polish People's Republic believes that the proposals contained in the latter plan, in the light of the situation created by the signing of the Soviet-American treaty, are becoming ever more topical.

Despite different tendencies, one is increasingly aware today of the fact that armaments cannot constitute an efficient instrument of ensuring both national and international security. The recognizing of this truth created the basis for the success of the negotiations on intermediate and shorter-range missiles.

The basic task being in the interest of European security is to undertake, as promptly as possible, negotiations on the reduction of armed forces and conventional armaments in Europe which has been expressed many a time by the states-parties to the Warsaw Treaty.

Press Expresses Views

LD091213 Warsaw PAP in English 1040 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 9—"The Soviet-American treaty, first and foremost, reduces the tension in the world, favours the shaping of an atmosphere of mutual confidence. In sum, it begins a new phase of relations between the two superpowers, though it does not yet signify either the return to the era of detente or to the full normalization of relations," wrote ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI.

"The time has come for an end to the Western propaganda practice in the area of disarmament and a turn towards the shaping of a realistic disarmament policy—the old maxim: The more weapons the more security, brought to Europe from the U.S., is becoming ineffective. Today new foundations and political structure of European security are beginning to appear," the Army daily opined.

RZECZPOSPOLITA came out with this comment: "The fact that both sides were capable, at the right moment, of silencing some of the previous postulates, put forward and that the SDI (Strategic Defence Initiative) moved to the background in Reagan's deliberations, is solely evidence of both sides' good will, without which nothing could have been achieved. This was expressed by the world which sent words of recognition and complements to both sides. Similarly, the compromises from both sides have created the possibility of not only the signing of the agreement, but also chance for future, exceedingly important negotiations on the elimination of strategic weapons."

PAP: 'Treaty of Hope'

LD091304 Warsaw PAP in English 2225 GMT 8 Dec 87

["Summit Meeting: Historic Hour" by PAP commentator Andrzej Rayzacher]

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 8—The treaty on the elimination of intermediate-range nuclear missiles signed by Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan on Tuesday is a historic agreement because for the first time ever it does not provide for the preservation of some types of weapons even in limited quantities but orders these weapons to be destroyed.

This is a treaty the establishment of which was the most difficult undertaking in the history of disarmament negotiations because it contains unprecedented verification-control provisions.

This is also a treaty of hope because it creates political, psychological and even military premises for further agreements to be reached on the reduction or elimination of strategic, chemical and conventional arms.

This is an achievement all the more significant because it comes after years of a growing threat of "cold war."

We will surely witness hard-fought battles for the ratification of the treaty by the American Senate in which forces to the extreme right are already making ready to bleed and maim it and deprive it of balanced substance.

But now the most important question is whether Gorbachev and Reagan will be able to go further ahead in the direction of the militarily more important reduction of strategic arsenals, whether the fierce battle waged by the Soviet leader to prevent the militarization of space succeed. The rest of the world, especially Europe, also this time will not be passive onlookers of these strivings. In one's best interest and the feeling of responsibility burdening the politicians of the continent one cannot hesitate in lending support to these trends which are conducive to fruitful dialogue.

All the more so as our arms-infested continent faces a great opportunity now. The treaty on the elimination of "Euromissiles" and a possible agreement on the reduction of "overkill" strategic arsenals by half have a common basis: accepting the principle of each side limiting itself to potentials "sufficient for defence."

The transfer of this principle onto a platform of conventional armaments on the European continent is a historic chance which Europe cannot waste. This is precisely what the Jaruzelski plan proposes in providing for the elimination of those elements of military doctrines which do not envisage clear defense against aggression.

The summit in Washington can radically change our world. It could cease to be a world of fear of annihiliation and become a planet of faith in life.

Report From Washington

LD091320 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1105 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] We are linking up with our correspondent Krzysztof Wojna:

[Wojna] Krzysztof Wojna in Washington. Not much is known about the talks being held between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan. Marlin Fitzwater and Gennadiy Gerasimov, the spokesman of both delegations, admittedly meet journalists twice a day, but all attempts to obtain more detailed information do not come to much. That's how it was 2 years ago in Geneva and last October in Reykjavik. Both the Soviet and the U.S. side (?are making a great secret) of what is going on behind closed doors. The key sentence from the last press conference at which both press spokesmen took part was that, important progress had been noted in the matters being discussed. And we managed to discover that further disarmament steps and human rights questions, which from the outset the United States has been trying to move to the top level, were discussed—at least that is the impression gained from observing the mass media here.

As the summit meetings proceed, it is increasingly evident that the key issue for Ronald Reagan's administration is armament control. According to behind-the-scenes information, the chance for an agreement on the general principles of the next agreement on the reduction of strategic weapons is growing. The wave of criticism of the treaty signed yesterday seemingly is on the decrease. Robert Dole, a Republican presidential candidate, and Henry Kissinger, former Secretary of State, the leading critics of the treaty, have seemed during the last 24 hours to have changed their opinions. The treaty, as public opinion polls prove, has the majority of Americans on its side. Apart from that there is an increasing awareness that undermining the treaty might block the further development of Soviet-U.S. relations.

The United States, it would seem, has not yet found a reply to the question as to how to treat the processes which are taking place in the Soviet Union. That does not mean, however, that those who treat prestroyka [restructuring] and openness as a purely propaganda maneuver were in the majority. When following the course of the visit of the general secretary of the Soviet party, one must conclude that the United States is rediscovering the Soviet Union, not really knowing what opinion to assume. One thing is certain, the enormous interest in Mikhail Gorbachev has pushed into the background the anti-Soviet accents. The importance of the talks which are being held by the leaders of the two greatest powers of our globe has pushed its climate to the periphery.

Gornicki Cited on Pending Gorbachev Visit

PM091056 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 6-7 Dec 87 p 15

[Andrea Tarquini dispatch: "General's Right-Hand-Man, Colonel Wieslaw Gornicki: 'Consensus Will Be Driving Force Behind Jaruzelski's Poland'"]

[Text] Warsaw—It is definite: the consultation with Gorbachev—a consultation between friends and allies, not a "call to account"—will take place by the 10th of next month and will therefore precede the Polish plenum which must decide by 15 January on the future of the reforms desired by Jaruzelski following the government's defeat-cum-victory in the communist world's first free vote. Poland is first among the Eastern bloc regimes to wish Gorbachev success in Washington.

In the consultation—which will be bilateral but which will then be extended to the USSR's other allies—an attempt will probably be made to combine Ligachev's proposals with Jaruzelski's recent plan for negotiations on conventional disarmament in Europe. We were given assurances to this effect by a usually inaccessible source who granted LA REPUBBLICA an exclusive lengthy conversation from which we report some extracts here. The man who received us in the Council of Ministers Presidium building, opposite the magnificent Lazienki Park (Warsaw's Versailles), is Colonel Wieslaw Gornicki, in practice Jaruzelski's national security adviser.

Neither Alarm Nor Enthusiasm [subhead]

He is the man closest to the general and occupies not only officially but in reality a position similar to that of Ligachev and Chebrikov in Russia or Carlucci and Powell in the United States. Gornicki added that following the referendum results Jaruzelski spoke, with neither alarm nor enthusiasm, in termns of a serious situation, a serious response from the people that will have to be analyzed thoroughly, with a commitment not to turn back from the path of reform—and with the intention of turning the referendum into a regular means of taking stock of relations between the communist government and society.

Just yesterday Prime Minister Zbigniew Messner announced that the government is to "dilute" food prices by 110 percent over a period of 3 years. Solidarity spokesman Onyszkiewicz greeted the decision as "a good sign."

It was late morning when Gornicki received us. His office, small and modest but comfortable, provided isolation from the wintry cold that has suddenly enveloped Warsaw. On his desk was a personal computer, the colonel's working tool and source of amusement. Lean and terse but cordial, bearing his 60 years well, and wearing a gray suit instead of his customary uniform, Colonel Gornicki calmly lit a Mallboro and offered me one while we had a relaxed talk over a cup of coffee.

What is happening and what has happened, Colonel Gornicki believes, must be viewed in the light of the history of an unfortunate country. Poland was partitioned 192 years ago, became independent again in 1918, then came the Nazi aggression, then the communist revolution, then Stalinism....

Since that time, Gornicki recalled, the Poles have experienced a total of only 8 years of parliamentary democracy; then the communist regime, the rapid accumulation a century after the rest of Europe into a country dominated by big landowners; then Stalinism, though thank heaven if was much "softer" here than in the rest of the empire. How often over the centuries, Gornicki observed, perhaps with reference to his general, have the major national heroes—from the kings to Pilsudski and Starzynski, executed by the Gestapo—been appointed rather than elected. How often the country has owed its salvation to an enlightened dictator.

What now, Colonel? What balance sheet for Poland will you submit to Gorbachev following his summit with Reagan? Gornicki believes it will be a good one. Of course the economic situation is collapsing but Jaruzelski has managed to keep his promises of future reforms and political easings pledged immediately after the coup, when the country and the world as a whole neither could nor wanted to believe him.

The colonel explained his optimism. Referendums will become a regular government method, he said. Poor Poland can take advantage of the convergence of several factors—the support for reforms, the growing agreement with the Church, and the Gorbachev factor.

A historical compromise with Glemp's Church is starting to take shape for the sake of national interests, the colonel believes. It is to be hoped, we added, that the Church will free itself from its preference for weak state partners. In the factories and at the local level Solidarity members or former members are opting for infiltration, seeking integration into the power structures.

What are the prospects of dialogue with the opposition, we asked. According to the colonel the only condition set by the government is that people must stop accepting money from U.S. observer [osservatori, possible misprint for "conservatori", conservative] politicians. So Gornicki is setting a marginal and not very onerous condition that would force neither Solidarity nor the government to make any concessions, just as it does not oblige the government to resume the dialogue interrupted by the coup.

What about the Gorbachev factor? The Kremlin leader does not get lost amid details but concentrates on specific results, the colonel believes. The important thing for him is for a country to be stable and he does not care whether it is governed in a centralized but efficient way, like East Germany, or tolerantly and with increasing pluralism, like Poland. The colonel's observations suggest that Moscow's very silence on Romania's dramatic situation indicates that, unlike Brezhnev and Khrushchev, Gorbachev has decided to avoid interfering in the allied satellites' affairs. Moreover, Gornicki believes, there are many signs of Gorbachev's support for the Polish reforms: The other day IZVESTIYA defended a Polish private enterprise, Agrotechnika, the subject of an attack by SPRAWY I LUDZE, the last newspaper controlled by party hardliners. True, we have translated glasnost as jawnosc but it is equally true that certain words symbolic of the Polish reforms—some of them dating from the Solidarity era—have been borrowed by the Russians: Odnowa [renewal] has been translated as vaznovleniye [as published]. Jaruzelski's watchword following the coup was also adopted by Gorbachev: "We will use not the argument of force but the force of argument."

We listened to Colonel Gornicki and recalled the much harder times that Poland recently endured: It was three people who made the eventual decision to stage a coup d'etat to halt Solidarity. Almost 7 long years have gone by since then—and you see it and hear it constantly if you spend a few days among Poles.

It was a cold December night: Generalk Jaruzelski, Rakowski, and Colonel Gornicki said nothing to and lost many of their closest friends—those who, because of their loyalty to the regime, they could not save from arrest, those who shortly after midnight were immediately seized by troops and police and thrown into prison. As certain opposition leaders now released told me a few days ago, they held lengthy discussions while behind bars, divided and argued over the hope and possibility that the military communist government could at least have the strength to attempt a reform of the system.

Now the former friends of the three characters in our story are free; they organize meetings, publish clandestine but tolerated newspapers; and conduct a remote dialogue with the three key figures of authority. So following the victory General Gornicki and Rakowski are jointly preparing for further difficult decisions. The economy is the major obstacle and major threat. The lack of currency and the debts impede the modernization or closure of old and useless enterprises such as steelworks, and this all causes a vicious circle.

Country's Fear [subhead]

Gornicki did not conceal the fact that the government shares the fear of the country as a whole and of the more reasonable oppositionists, namely, that price increases will sooner or later rekindle the passions that Poland has managed to quell.

The colonel is afraid that a revolutionary dream and a challenge to the system could reappear, like a lava flow still hot beneath the ashes, not among the poorer Poles (over one-fourth of the country) but among the wealthier, the elite workers and the students, as happened in Italy and France in 1968. If next year Poland does not have such a good harvest as in 1987, the social peace built through this paradoxical mixture of tolerance, freedom, and poverty will be in serious jeopardy.

Then the problems will begin for ally Gorbachev too.

More on Orzechowski's Talks in UK

LD091135 Warsaw PAP in English 0010 GMT 9 Dec 87

[By PAP correspondent Mariusz Kuklinski]

[Text] London, Dec. 8—Polish Foreign Minister Marian Orzechowski, now on an official visit to Great Britain, was received by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher here today.

Also today Orzechowski held talks with British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe. Both ministers signed a Polish-British agreement for the promotion and mutual protection of investments. After the ceremony staged at the Foreign Office Reception Palace where the agreement was signed, Geoffrey Howe entertained Orzechowski to lunch.

Later in the day Orzechowski listened at the House of Commons' visitors' gallery to Mrs Thatcher's answers during the so-called Question Time.

Tonight Orzechowski met with representatives of British political, economic, cultural and scientific life and also of Polish communities living in this country.

The talks held by Minister Orzechowski and Secretary Howe showed that the intention of both governments is to boost the Polish-British relations in all areas.

The British side showed interest in the implementation of Polish economic reforms, and Minister Orzechowski briefed the British side on his government plans in this respect.

Both ministers expressed satisfaction over the signing of the agreement on elimination of intermediate-range nuclear missiles by Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan in Washington today and voiced hope that this would open up the road to further concrete disarmament steps.

Minister Orzechowski and Secretary Howe signed a Polish-British agreement on promotion and mutual protection of investments aimed to create favourable conditions for expanding investment made by one state's investors in the other's territory.

Secretary Howe gave a lunch in honour of Minister Orzechowski during which the two delivered speeches.

Secretary Geoffrey Howe stated that Polish-British relations have been characterized by traditional warmth for a long time.

Recalling his talks with Chairman of the Council of State Wojciech Jaruzelski in Warsaw in 1985, Secretary Howe stated that in light of her history, Poland's interest in reducing arms and in disarmament in Europe was understandable. In this field Polish diplomacy has good traditions. We do not always agree with all proposals forwarded by Poland but we have much respect and understanding for her stand, Howe said.

It is very good that the Polish visit to London coincides with the signing of the treaty on the elimination of intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Washington. This treaty is the best proof of what can be accomplished when both sides show a political will for progress, Secretary Howe stated.

The British side is aware of the efforts made by the Polish Government to deepen the process of democratization in which process much has already been achieved, the British foreign secretary stressed. Great Britain positively assesses the direction of the reforms being put into practice in Poland and counts on their success, he said. The chief of Polish diplomacy underscored the role of Great Britain in the history of Europe, its contribution to the development of European civilization and culture, the parliamentary system, technology and organization.

Peace is not only a state without war but also a search for platforms of replacing propaganda stereotypes with honest information, creative development of a community of interests, creating premises for the thorough, harmonious development of the human being and his or her rights, stated Minister Orzechowski.

We want our relations with Great Britain to gain the right significance in all fields. Poland especially speaks in favour of stable and comprehensive development of economic relations free of restrictions.

The talks carried out between both ministers have shown significant convergent points, stated Orzechowski.

In the afternoon, from the distinguished visitors' gallery at the house of Commons Minister Orzechowski listened to questions put to the prime minister during the traditional Question Time which members of Parliament are allowed twice a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Polish Ambassador to Britain Zbigniew Gertych took part in the talks and meetings held by Minister Orzechowski. Also present was Britain's Ambassador to Poland Brian Barder.

The Polish minister met with representatives of British political, economic, cultural and scientific life, M.P.S. and newsmen at the Institute of Polish culture in London.

He met with representatives of the Polish community in Britain at the Polish General Consulate in London. In the course of the meeting he stressed the importance of the 70th anniversary of Poland's independence due in 1988. The Polonia from Britain cannot be missing in the ceremonies marking this event, he said. Orzechowski also referred to the preparations under way in Poland to mark the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of World War Two.

The ashes of General Sikorski, the premier and commander-in-chief of the Polish Armed Forces during the war, which today rest outside Poland, should be placed in the proper place, namely the Wawel Castle in Krakow. Minister Orzechoski briefed the British Polonia, which in its greater part comes from Poland's former eastern regions, about activities undertaken among Poles residing in the Soviet Union, including the opening of the Polish Consulate in Lvov and their ever growing participation in Polonian events in Poland.

Minister Orzechowski also met with General Secretary of the Communist Party of Great Britain Gordon Maclennan. During their talks the two exchanged views on the international situation and the internal policies of both countries.

Further Reportage on Visit by PLO Delegation

JN091919 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces and member of the Fatah Movement Central Committee, has met with Comrade General Florian Siwicki, Polish minister of national defense and member of the Central Committee of the PZPR at the Polish Ministry of National Defense.

During this meeting, the reviewed developments of the Palestinian struggle inside the occupied homeland and the general military situation of the Palestinian revolution. They also discussed the means of military cooperation between the Palestinian Revolution Forces and the Polish People's Army. The meeting was attended on the Palestinian side by Brigadier General Fakhri Shaqqurah, assistant chief of staff of the Palestinian National Army and head of military intelligence; Yasin Sa'adah, assistant chief of staff for adminstration and logistics affairs; Lieutenant Colonel Tariq al-'Ali, member of the Supreme Military Council; 'Abdallah Hijazi, the PLO representative in the Polish People's Republic; and Major Abual-'izz [not further identified], director of the office of the deputy commander in chief. On the Polish side, the meeting was attended by General Uzycki, the chief of the General Staff; General (Firyan Mistrak), deputy chief of staff and official in charge of organization; a number of senior officials of the Ministry of National Defense and the General Staff; and the head of the Arab Relations Department at the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

In the evening, the Polish minister of national defense hosted a banquet in honor of the delegation during which he delivered a welcoming speech. In his speech, he expressed the admiration of the Polish people and Army for the sacrifices made by the Palestinian people in their confrontation of the Israeli-imperialist aggression. He also voiced the deep solidarity binding the Polish and Palestinian peoples. Brother Abu Jihad made a reply speech in which he explained the sufferings of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories caused by the occupation forces, the schemes seeking to expropriate lands and perpetrate aggressiosn against all aspects of life of this great people, including perpetrating murders and acs of terrorism, making arrests, and stifiling the most basic requirements for human life. Brother Abu Jihad stressed the insistence on armed struggle as a way for our people to establish their independent state on their national soil.

Yesterday afternoon, the delegation visited the oldest military unit of the 1st Armored Brigade, where it was brieefed on the history of the Polish people's struggle against Nazism, which used to perpetrate the ugliest forms of policies against the friendly Polish people. Brother Abu Jihad arrived in Warsaw in the afternoon of 7 December heading a military delegation on a visit lasting several days at the invitation of the Polish minister of national defense. The delegation was received at the airport by General Uzycki, the Polish chief of staff, and a number of his deputies and assistants. Following the Palestinian delegation's arrival in Warsaw, brother Abu Jihad, accompanied by the Polish deputy chief of staff, laid a wreath on the unkown soldier's monument, which represents the sacrifices made by the Polish people and Army in their resistance of the Nazi German occupation.

Israeli CP Official Pays Visit 5-7 Dec

LD071912 Warsaw PAP in English 1738 GMT 7 Dec 87

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 7—Political Bureau member, secretary of the Communist Party of Israel Central Committee David Khenin paid a visit to Poland between December 5 and 7 at the invitation of the PUWP CC.

During talks with heads of the PUWP CC foreign and politico-organizational departments, Ernest Kucza and Stanislaw Gabrielski, sides exchanged information on the implementation of resolutions of the 10th PUWP Congress and the 20th congress of the Communist Party of Israel and discussed some of the aspects of interparty cooperation.

Barcikowski Receives Apostolic Nuncio

LD100041 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1600 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Kazimierz Barcikowski has received Archbishop Francesco Colasuonno apostolic nuncio for special missions and the head of the team for permanent working contacts between the Holy See and the Polish Government.

Our guest is heading a vatican delegation at a session of the mixed commission which is to examine issues concerning the establishment of diplomatic relations with Poland. The main issues relating to the state and the prospects for the relations between the state and the Catholic Church in our country, and also between Poland and the Holy See were discussed. They expressed their will to continue joint efforts to achieve further progress toward full normalization of mutual relations.

Schoolchildren Receive Gorbachev Message

LD092359 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1900 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Mikhail Gorbachev has sent a letter to the pupils of Primary School Number Eight in Boleslawiec, in Jelenia Gora Voivodship, in which he thanked them for their greetings on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of Great October and their wishes for success in restructuring. Today the letter was conveyed to the teachers and pupils by the Soviet Ambassador to Poland Vladimir Brovikov.

During this ceremony, the pupils of the Boleslawiec school submitted to the Committee of the Order of the Smile in Warsaw a request that Mikhail Gorbachev be awarded this medal, the only one of its kind in the world which children give to adults.

Politburo Discusses Referendum, Other Issues

LD101041 Warsaw PAP in English 0028 GMT 10 Dec 87

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 9—The PUWP CC Political Bureau on Tuesday acquainted itself with the directions of planned amendments to and modifications of the implementation programme of the second stage of economic reform and the central annual plan for 1988.

The outcome of the national referendum, and especially pre-referendum discussion, have shown that the public opinion comes out for a slower pace of introduction of some solutions than that originally proposed, that is primarily for a slower pace of introducing retail price rises of goods directly affecting living costs.

It would be a mistake, however, or even dishonesty—the bureau stressed—to reduce the programme of the second stage mainly to changes of prices. The ventures included in that stage make up a broad, complex plan of restructuring the way of management.

One should not—the bureau said—give up striving for maintaining the three-year period of implementing the programme, despite the postponement of price changes originally scheduled for 1988.

The slower pace of changing prices will also account for the fact that a maximum growth of national income in 1988 may be estimated at 3.8 per cent, while the radical variant created chances for 4.1-per cent increase.

The Political Bureau underscored that it is necessary to intensively implement those elements of the programme of the second stage which are not directly linked with the price-income policy but speed up the growth of supply and effectiveness of management.

Representatives of the government spoke about the work currently under way on specifying and enriching the programme of the second stage.

The five-year plan, and especially the investment plan, are expected to be corrected.

The Political Bureau also acquainted itself with the socio-economic situation in Poland. Economic results after the 11 months of this year indicate that the 1987 Central Annual Plan will be implemented in basic areas.

In agriculture, the procurement of animal for slaughter is slightly better than planned, though its level is slightly lower than last year.

Favourable trends continue to exist in foreign trade. Both Polish exports and imports considerably exceeded the planned targets, and the surplus in trade with hard currency countries amounted to 1.2 billion dollars.

The situation is still unfavourable in the building industry, and especially housing. In 11 months less than 70 per cent of planned targets were reached.

A faster growth of incomes than that of supplies of goods and services to the market resulted in the widening of inflation gap.

The bureau stated that the money-market situation is gradually coming back to normal. Deposits on saving accounts went up by nearly 8 billion zloties in November after some imbalance in the first half of the month. The buying up of foodstuffs is on the decrease.

The Political Bureau acquainted itself with the course and results of the official visit to Greece paid by President of the Council of State Wojciech Jaruzelski.

The bureau stated that the visit was a continuation of political dialogue initiated during a visit to Poland by Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou in 1984.

The bureau acquainted itself with information on the working visit of friendship paid by Wojciech Jaruzelski to Hungary.

It highly assessed and approved of the hitherto achievements in bilateral cooperation, and especially the "complex programme of development of relations between Poland and Hungary by the year 2000," signed by the leaders of both parties.

Council of Ministers Discusses Referendum

AU071703 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 5-6 Dec 87 p 1

[Text]PAP—The Government Press Office reports that the Council of Ministers met on 4 December. The government discussed the outcome of the nationwide referendum held on 29 November and its implications for the implementation of the second stage of the reform, as well as a draft of the speech to be delivered by the chairman of the Council of Ministers at the next meeting of the PPR Sejm.

The Council of Ministers adopted a resolution on government orders and the operational program for 1988. The resources for fulfilling the orders and implementing the program, in particular foreign currency, will be transferred from producers' parent bodies to the recipients of the goods and services that they provide.

PAP Comments on Amendments to State Budget

LD072305 Warsaw PAP in English 2200 GMT 7 Dec 87

[By PAP economic commentator]

[Text] Warsaw, Dec 7—The amendments to the budgetary law for 1987 passed at the Sejm's (parliament) meeting on Saturday and the course of the discussions on this subject once again reaffirmed the importance of a correct linking up of material planning with financial planning and showed how great an impact the economic-financial and tax systems bear on the behaviour of enterprises.

In passing the amendments the Sejm, nonetheless, agreed to a significantly lower level of the deficit than was originally proposed, cutting it from 418 billion to 298 billion zloties. This does not, however, mean that an "economic miracle" will occur in December.

This significant lowering of the deficit has a strictly formal reason. The budget will gain exactly 100 billion zloties in the form of unplanned income from target funds which currently have surplus resources.

Central funds for the development of science and technology are a point in case. The plans envisaged an appropriate share of science and technology in the distribution of national income. From this point of view it is important where the resources of the fund will be allotted.

The deposit is refundable.

The refund should take place when it will be possible to use these resources in accordance with what they were meant for. It is, therefore, important to envisage such a refund in the draft budgetary law for 1988.

Does this mean that one will have to make provisions for an unbalanced budget next year. The lack of budgetary balance this year (it was planned for the first time ever) will not facilitate the starting point. There are, however, other causes, much more important, which as if forecast the need to forego an ambitious goal: A zero balance sheet in the state treasury for 1988. This is because the balance was strictly tied with the implementation program of the second stage of reform in its original shape. The marshalling of the budget was an important element of putting the whole economy in order.

The total deficit will reach 298 billion zloties (an increase in expenditure by 65 billion zloties, a drop in incomes by 333 billion zloties following the granting of the 100 billion zloties refundable deposit).

The deputies drew several conclusions from the fact that the plan of balancing the central budget for this year failed. The first conclusion concerns the creation of the principle of an early warning that balance is threatened.

The deputies also postulated the need to introduce an indepth change of the system of exports tax breaks accounting which was the main cause of a fall in budgetary incomes.

The most important conclusion was that the financial plan of the state should be an integral part of the central annual plan.

PAP Examines Work of Consultative Council

LD072011 Warsaw PAP in English 1730 GMT 7 Dec 87

["First Anniversary of Consultative Council's Formation—PAP headline]

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 7—Proposals, suggestions, doubts and questions forwarded at sessions of the Consultative Council at the President of the Council of State meet with response.

On the first anniversary of the formation of the Consultative Council PAP journalist Jadwiga Wiecek was given access to the package of documents kept at the Secretariat of the President of the Council of State and referring to the penultimate, fourth meeting of members of the Consultative Council

The meeting focused on the analysis "From Diagnoses to Actions" by Prof Jan Szczepanski. Twenty-five suggestions, critical assessments, questions and issues needing explanation were selected. Fourteen central institutions voiced their opinions on these issues. Here are some of these problems.

Prof Zbigniew Wierzbicki, sociologist, no party affiliation, close to Catholic circles, forwarded such a suggestion among several other proposals: To improve work qualaity—even at the price of unemployment. He said: "People who are bad workers, who are redundant or who demoralize colleagues with their drinking must go. Selection is necessary, just as necessary is an increase in pays, accompanied by increased labour productivity".

In reply to this the Ministry of Labour, Wages and Social Affairs (now the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy) said that many activities were taken which aimed at restoring the social importance of labour as the condition indispensable for the realization of basic goals of the state's economic policy in nearest years. The ministry's reply reads in part: "The impact of economic factors on workers must be so strong to make it impossible for them to comfortably 'vegetate' in successive work establishments".

In the light of the assumptions of the 2nd stage of the economic reform state bodies—it was assured—are responsible for the realization of the constitutional right to work. Work is under way on the introduction of ad hoc changes in the labour law, conducive to an increase in effectiveness and stimulating the rationalization of employment and increased professional activity. The minister of labour and social policy is personally responsible for this. The same minister has also been obliged to review and consolidate regulations concerning employment and labour exchange till July next year.

The entire system of reforming the Polish economy aims at creating conditions in which it would be unprofitable for every enterprise and every crew to tolerantly treat work shirkers and in which wages would reflect work actually done. For quite a long time instruments of the assessment of labour and management have been prepared, and forms of collective work, particularly brigade and partner production groups, have been popularized.

Wierzbicki, and some other members of the council, devoted considerable part of his speech to the issue of the development of nuclear power industry in Poland. According to him Europe, including this country, was so terrified by the Chernobyl disaster that from that moment on nuclear power industry and its possible development has become a much discussed problem.

In conclusion Wierzbicki proposed to again examine the decision to build a second nuclear plant, simply to conduct a referendum on the issue.

During the debates Prof Stefan Wegrzyn, specialist in computer science and automation, indirectly argued that stand by saying: "It seems to me that the fact of Poland's growing dangerous energy problem has not been properly understood by society so far. We have reached the ceiling of hard coal and lignite extraction at the levels of 200 million tonnes and 80 million tonnes, respectively, and we are not going to exceed it. So nuclear power plants are a necessity."

Answering the forwarded objection, the then Ministry of Mining and Power Industry proved that in 2000 demand for energy would require the use of 320 million tonnes of conventional fuel in Poland while supply may reach only 250 million tonnes, provided broadly understood inventiveness and savings are introduced. Some Western countries often speak of an alleged withdrawal from the use of nuclear power. In fact, this looks different. Last year France took nearly 70 percent of its total power supply from nuclear power plants, Belgium—67 percent, Sweden—over 50-percent and Switzerland—some 40 percent.

The document reads: "The development of nuclear power industry in Poland is dictated by care for reduction of shortages as in the difficult economic situation of the country and considerable debt it is not possible to import energy or to increase hard coal extraction, ever more expensive. The Sejm decided in March, 1985, to construct, as a minimal number, three nuclear power plants with the total capacity of 7,860—9060 mw in 15 years. It now seems realistic, however, to achieve only 5,860 mw."

The ministry says that the guarantee of the safety of nuclear power plants is care for maximal safety already at the stage of designing, then at the stages of constructing and operating a unit in line with world achievements in this respect. Polish nuclear power plants will be safe, it says.

The statement by Prof. Piotr Zaremba (town-planner, PUWP) concerned the question of integration of socialist countries. He remarked: "Our society is asking why the EEC states, the West European states, have succeeded in the economic, passport, visa, tariff integration, while, after 40 years, the CMEA countries remain divided by burdensome and ever changing tariff, tourist and financial barriers. The Ministry of Foreign Trade (now, the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations) admits in its reply that the CMEA states countries are aware of the underdevelopment of cooperation and economic integration. They are aware of the necessity to improve the mechanisms of cooperation as the principal condition for a faster development of production forces and for greater prosperity.

"There is also a political will to make the desirable changes, as reflected in the decisions taken during the meeting of leaders of communist and workers' parties of the CMEA states in November, 1986. Directions of changes in the CMEA structure were laid down then, changes aiming towards tighter integration. Poland has postulated to increase the role of economic and financial and currency instruments of the cooperation (such as pricefixing, exchange rates, convertibility of currencies, establishment of a free trade zone and a customs union) as well as changing the organizational structure and ways of functioning of the CMEA apparatus.

The Polish sides attaches special importance to the question of coordination of economic policy and scientific-technical progress, joint investments and new forms of direct cooperation of enterprises. The decisions of the 43rd Extraordinary Session the CMEA, held lately, were geared towards this. In this case, too, it is worth having a look at the calendar of the 2nd stage of economic reform. It contains a note addressed to the chairman of the Government Planning Commission and to the minister of foreign economic relations. They should create early next year conditions for closer cooperation with sociaist countries and direct cooperation of enterprises of the CMEA countries. This is concordant with suggestions of the Consultative Council's member.

Having reviewed materials pertaining to the Consultative Council meetings, kept at the secretariat of the President of the Council of State, PUWP journalist arrived at two conclusions: It is evident that every addressed concrete and critical opinion is treated seriously, it is also evident that some postulates of the council's members are concordant with those transformations in public life which have been accomplished or will be accomplished in Poland shortly owing to the programme of economic and political reform.

Construction Minister on New Housing Program

AU071752 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 26 Nov 87 p 7

[Interview with Bogumil Ferensztajn, PZPR Politburo member and PPR minister of land use management and construction, by Krystyna Sonntag and Mieczyslaw Wodzicki: "We Will Create Equal Opportunities for Everyone"—date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Sonntag, Wodzicki] We have arrived at the heart of the matter. What will be the function and role of the ministry for which you have now assumed responsibility, and what steps need to be taken to get housing construction out of the current awkward situation?

[Ferensztajn] The illusion that the number of orders, directives and appeals that are issued can really have an effect and result in a greater number of new houses is something that already belongs to the past. So, the ministry will not issue orders but will guide development. It will shape housing and investment policy and will influence land use management. In a word, the ministry will create conditions for encouraging initiative in the construction industry.

Perhaps what I am saying sounds too general; very few statistics, indexes, and forecasts containing concrete figures have been mentioned in our conversation, whereas in the past it was routine practice to do so. Another issue altogether was how what was on paper tallied with what was actually accomplished. I will just provide one important statistic: If the direction of our immediate and long-term work is correct—and I hope it is—then over the next few years we should create conditions that will produce results giving us a figure of eight apartments for every thousand people. Today, as we know, the number is barely five.

It will be up to the regional authorities to accomplish this task. According to the new way in which we see our work, the ministry is needed to create—on the basis of a new set of principles—conditions to expand construction capacity, increase the output of construction materials, and remove legal and bureaucratic obstacles to establishing and using sites for construction work.

We here in Warsaw have one basic task: to create an incentive for and the possibility of a construction "boom" in the regions and in every town, housing development, and commune. We have to eliminate everything that impedes and hinders regional self-management bodies in the performance of their work. What is it that makes people almost powerless to solve the serious problems that they face? Those who have to wait passively in line for an apartment are not so much counting their money as the number of years that they have to wait.

[Sonntag, Wodzicki] The document entitled "Proposals Concerning Immediate and Long-term Activities Designed to Increase Housing Construction," which is part of the new minister's program, has been approved by the PZPR Central Committee Politburo. It would seem that it can count on public support because its provisions are based on the promotion of universal initiative. They break up the current setup, the conditions that can be unilaterally imposed by large, expensive, and sluggish construction companies, and the investment monopoly. At any rate, that is the impression that one gets from the proposals.

[Ferensztajn] I subscribe to this program, because, as I already said, the views and opinions of many competent groups and organizations were considered in its formulation, as well as many different ideas and interesting suggestions.

It is based on the assumption that, if current financial, organizational, and other measures have not proved to be fully effective, then they ought to be abandoned. This means that new institutional norms have to be established; we should, for example, permit there to be a number of sources of investment. Alongside the existing system of large housing cooperatives, we ought to have various small, medium-sized cooperatives, and construction companies that bring together employees from one or more places of work. Furthermore, this investment mosaic ought to suit the diverse character of those who can carry out construction work. [passage omitted]

Soviets Sends Thanks for Congratulations

*AU100925 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian
6 Dec 87 p 5*

[Cable of thanks from CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet, and Council of Ministers to "Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP Secretary General and President of the SR of Romania, and Comrade Constantin Dascalescu, Prime Minister of the Government of the SR of Romania" for congratulations on the anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution]

[Text] To Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of the SR of Romania; Comrade Constantin Dascalescu, prime minister of the Government of the SR of Romania

Dear Comrades: The CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union, and the Soviet people express cordial thanks to you, the RCP Central Committee, the State Council, the Government of the SR of Romania, and to all Romanian people for the warm congratulations and wishes on the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

We want to express the conviction that the further development and intensification of relations of friendship and cooperation at various levels between the CPSU and the RCP and between the USSR and the SR of Romania in the spirit of understandings concluded during Soviet-Romanian summit talks and the determination to cooperate in the international arena are fully in keeping with the interests of the peoples of both countries and serve the cause of socialism and peace throughout the world.

We wish you, the Communists, and all working people of the SR of Romania the successful implementation of the 13th RCP Congress decisions, constant progress on the road of socialist construction, and happiness and prosperity to the Romanian people.

CPSU Central Committee, Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and USSR Council of Ministers.

Comparison of Joint Communique With Syria

Damascus Television Service in Arabic in its 1830 GMT newscast on 2 December carries the 20-minute announcer-read "text" of the Syrian-Romanian joint communique issued in Damascus and Bucharest on 2 December 1987 on the official visit of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to the SR of Romania from 30 November to 2 December 1987.

The Damascus television service version has been compared to the Bucharest AGERPRES English version published in the 4 December East Europe DAILY REPORT, pages 55-58, revealing the following variations:

Column two, paragraph three, from last sentence reads from Damascus television: ...and mutual understanding. [new paragraph]

On the Syrian side, the talks were attended by: Wahib Tannus, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command; Fayiz Isma'il, member of the Progressive and National Front Central Command; Faruq al-Shar', foreign minister; Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade; and Haytham Barakat, the Syrian ambassador to Romania.

On the Romanian side, the talks were attended by: Gheorghe Oprea, first deputy prime minister; Ioan Totu, foreign minister; Radu Balan, secretary of the Romanian Communist Party central committee; Ilie Vaduca, minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation; and Paraschiv Benescu, Romanian ambassador in Damascus. [new paragraph]

President Nicolae Ceausescu... (supplying additional paragraphs, deleting word "comrade")

Paragraph four, last sentence reads from Damascus television: ... people's material and cultural standards. [new paragraph]

President Hafiz... (substituting "cultural" for "spiritual")

Page 56, column two, paragraph two, last sentence reads from Damascus television: ...and violation of other states' independence and... (substituting "other" for "some")

Page 57, paragraph five, first sentence reads from Damascus television: ... Lebanon, the two sides condemned the Israeli forces' continued occupation of Lebanese territory and Israel's interference in Lebanon's domestic affairs. Emphasis was placed on the need to take steps for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon and for the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions in that regard. The two presidents ... (supplying alternate wording)

Signing of U.S.-USSR INF Accord Examined

Welcomed by Presidency

LD092119 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2026 GMT 9 Dec 87

["Pool" item]

[Text] Belgrade, Dec 9 (TANJUG)—The Presidency of Yugoslavia today welcomed the signing of the accord on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles from Europe by the Soviet Union and the United States. The Yugoslav state leadership said this was a historic step and expressed the conviction that it will lead to new negotiations on the key problems of modern world where, in addition to disarmament and promotion of detente, development problems are of primary importance.

Reviewing a report on a recent visit by Presidency President Lazar Mojsov to France, the Presidency assessed that during the Paris talks both sides expressed interest in and readiness for a long-term advancement of all forms of economic, financial, technological, cultural and tourism cooperation.

France offered full support to Yugoslavia's efforts aimed at expanding and improving cooperation with the European Community and rescheduling its foreign debt under favourable terms whose objective is to ensure its stable and speedier development and conditions for broader economic and technological links with Europe.

The Yugoslav State Presidency assessed that the November visit to Yugoslavia by Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam was a substantive continuation of the dialogue between the two nonaligned countries and that it created new long-term opportunities for expansion of economic cooperation, especially for greater participation of Yugoslav enterprises in Ethiopia's economic development projects.

'Historic Step'

LD091454 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1346 GMT 9 Dec 87

["U.S.-Soviet Union: More Agreement, Less Confontation" by Djordje Milosevic]

[Text] Belgrade, December 9 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav State Presidency's message to Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan expressed Yugoslavia's support to the agreement on removing shorter- and medium-range missiles and its readiness to contribute, in the greatest possible measure, to the processes of preserving peace, disarmament and equitable cooperation.

Yugoslav political circles have assessed that the U.S.-Soviet agreement is a historic step towards disarmament, removing the danger of war and towards a new stage in world political trends.

It has been set out with satisfaction in Belgrade that the developments are in accord with the stands that the movement of non-alignment has continuously and persistently been working towards for over 25 years.

Those stands were reiterated in the appeals sent to the two superpower leaders by the non-aligned summit in Harare last year.

Assessments of the historic significance of the U.S.-Soviet agreement were made bearing in mind that it is the first post-war agreement on removing a certain type of missiles and their warheads.

The agreement indicates a more favorable overall political atmosphere in international relations, including crisis regions.

It indicates the coming of a period of more negotiations and less confrontation and stimulates the process of further disarmament, both nuclear and conventional.

Yugoslav political circles recall that the removal of all weapons capable of destroying the world and civilisation is the goal of all countries.

That would mean a victory of the knowledge that all countries can live together and that the tendency towards power guarantees survivial to none.

The agreement signed in Washington confirms, in the best possible way, that disarmament and better international relations are neccesary and possible.

It is of the greatest significance now that the process started with the signing of the agreement not be ended with what has been achieved but be continued and that all members of the international community take equal part in it.

Trade Secretary Krekic Leaves for Albania

LD100034 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2145 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—Nenad Krekic, member of the FEC and federal secretary for foreign trade, left this evening on a visit to the People's Socialist Republic of Albania. During the visit, questions will be examined on current economic cooperation and prospects for the forthcoming period. A protocol on commodities' exchange between the two countries for 1988 is expected to be signed, as well as an agreement on border trade, and one on setting up a mixed committee for economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the two countries.

LCY Central Committee Views Economic Policies

LD081125 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0945 GMT 7 Dec 87

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 7 Dec (TANJUG)—A 2-day session of the LCY Central Committee opened in Belgrade today devoted to the analysis of ideopolitical questions of economic and development policies in 1988. The basis for discussion on this topic, which is expected to be completed by adopting the conclusions on the LC tasks concerning the socioeconomic development next year, are the draft resolution and the documents already adopted in the SFRY Assembly.

The extensive agenda will also include the concept of preparations and content of the work of the LCY conference to be held at the beginning of next year, as well as the stands and conclusions on the responsibility of Fadilj Hodza. The members of the LCY Central Committee will also adopt the stands of the LCY action conference on small businesses, as well as the conclusions on the activity of LCY members, organs and organizations concerning the realization of constitutionality and legality, which was discussed at the previous LCY Central Committee session.

There will also be a discussion on the responsibility of Hamdija Pozderac and the resignation of Stanko Tomic from the duty of member of the LCY Central Committee. The LCY Central Committee members will examine the proposal of the Bosnia-Hercegovina LC Central Committee to relieve Hamdija Pozderac of the duty of member of the highest party forum. A working group was set up at the beginning of the session that ought to prepare a report on this by tomorrow. Finally, the Central Committee will also adopt the program for its year's work.

Dusan Dragosavac took the floor before the discussion of topics on the agenda. He proposed that the LCY Central Committee, within the framework of a separate issue on the agenda, should discuss the political situation in the country and the work of the Presidium and the Central Committee of the LCY. He recalled that he had sent a letter containing the same proposal to the president and secretary of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, but that his intention was not to enter into correspondence with the leadership, as some have interpreted, or to demand replacements in the LC, but that the Central Committee should exert influence on some irrational and unstatutory settlements of account within the LC. It is essential, Dragosavac said, to clear up disunity in the LC and, primarily, in the LCY Central Committee, so that we can successfully realize the LC function on the basis of the LCY program and statute, as it is impossible to resolve the crisis without unity in the LCY Central Committee and in the central and provincial LC Committees.

Joining Dragosavac, Petar Matic proposed that the Central Committee, under a separate point on the agenda, should discuss and decide on holding a separate LCY Central Committee session devoted to the situation in society and the LC.

At that session we should openly tell one another what we think and on this basis decide about the action that would be in the function of the LC struggle for the regulation of events in society and within the LC. This means, Matic specified, that we ought to agree on what must be implemented in parts of the LC as the LC policy and what must be the consequences if it is not implemented as established.

Drawing attention to three questions that the members of the LCY Central Committee should discuss at the proposed session, Matic mentioned the LC attitude toward Yugoslavia's unity, the position of the working class and self-management, and the expansion of nationalism in various forms.

The Central Committee members agreed on the initiative of the chairman in connection with these proposals, whereby they should vote for or against the agenda point devoted to the preparations for the forthcoming LCY conference.

After this the introductory report on ideopolitical questions of the economic and development policies for next year was submitted by Dusan Ckrebic, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium.

Considering that we are still slaves to the long-standing models for the preparation of planning documents, said the first speaker in the discussion, Janez Zemljaric, the draft resolution has not yet managed to reflect fully all the seriousness and complexity of the economic-political situation in the country through the elaboration of the tasks. Neither the program of measures for curbing inflation nor a switch to the conditions of management following the adoption of the intervention measures in the sphere of markets and prices have been fully realized in practice. Extensive activities are under way in the FEC, the federal organizations, and delegate assemblies to promote the planning documents. [passage omitted]

The structure of our economy, Zemljaric warned, has not significantly changed for 15 years, while our partners in the world have considerably improved from the viewpoint of technological quality, prices, supply, and selection and are continuing to impair our competitiveness. We must eliminate everything that conditions the further autarchical isolation of economic development within the regional framework and blocks the developments of commodities and financial funds in the country.

The FEC will soon issue a more complete analysis and proposals for guidelines with regard to structural changes in the economy. [passage omitted]

A move has been made in the changes to the accounting system. A proposal for changes to the foreign exchange law would enable the exporters to obtain freely and without any special procedures a part of foreign currency for priority payments in conditions of restricted activity of foreign currency market. This would prevent a further accumulation of exchange rate differences from the foreign currency savings in the National Bank of Yugoslavia and, at the same time, the commercial banks would have the right to use foreign currency savings for development and current payments of the economy and not for consumption, as was the case to date.

One of the most serious and complex tasks in 1988, which is not sufficiently emphasized, will be the financial reorganization in the country and the reform of the monetary system, Zemljaric said. The realization of this task will certainly cause numerous disturbances and also increase social tension in organizations of associated labor in society. [sentence as received] [passage omitted]

In the year ahead, agriculture will be in an even more unfavorable position. Along with this statement, Borislav Odadzic pointed out that the measures that have been adopted or proposed are not sufficient to noticeably improve the position of the agricultural sector in primary distribution.

New prices that were established to remove disparities are not sufficient to enable the more profitable business operations of the majority of work organizations in this field, and livestock-rearing and the slaughtering industry will be in a particularly difficult position.

In Odadzic's assessment, the provision of loans for production and processing, which is of exceptional importance to the agricultural sector, remains an open question. The process of production is, in fact, exceptional in this sector of the economy, and as a result it is vital to establish a different interest rate policy. For the agricultural sector it is exceptionally important for there to be a transition to the free formation of prices as soon as possible. [transmission interrupted, TANJUG take 8 not received]

Speaking of the current failures in the search to find a way out of the crisis, Ivo Druzic stressed that it is no longer a matter either of the FEC or of a package of measures. As we have not found a way out, it is we who are on the agenda, this Central Committee and its leadership, he said.

For 30 years now, we have been opting for the functioning of economic legality and the market—and we are not meeting with success. Does this mean that all these years we have been going around in circles? Druzic asked, If we have, what then has happened to communist criticism, to what extent have communist ideals remained with us? He added: "To get the car out of the mud, the individual has to work." This will not happen until the individual sees that the leaderships are acting consistently. In this context, he said that it will not be possible to avoid establishing the responsibility for the expansion of the foreign debt since 1976, as well as for the negative economic trends since the beginning of this decade.

Directly connected to this is the question of the moral character of the leaders. Druzic advocated that all people holding posts submit for public inspection once annually their moveable and immoveable property. He also advocated drastic cuts in the representation and use of socially owned cars.

Corruption, Druzic believes, has become synonymous with our society. It is sinister to learn that without connections and bribes (money, and foreign currency at that), nothing can be done.

Ivo Druzic also turned to the question of consolidating the foreign debt and advocated an approach that would perhaps be closer to a moratorium rather than the rescheduling being offered by the creditors. He also proposed that consideration be given to the possibility that workers be given bonds from his collective but not in the classical shareholding sense, to improve motivation toward successful business operations.

Speaking about the problem of pooling labor and resources, especially in Kosovo, Andjelija Filipovic stressed that despite certain results these processes continue to develop on credit-based and not income-based relations. For example, she cited the fact that from 1981 to the end of September this year 186 self-managing agreements between collectives in Kosovo and outside this province have been concluded, and that of these 110 were credit-based, 50 income-based, and 26 were on a mixed basis.

It would have been better if the intervention measures had been adopted earlier, Dragutin Kosovac observed, adding that, regardless of the possible differences in opinion on the occasion of their adoption, they should now be uniformly implemented. The measures provide a breathing space for essential systemic changes, he continued, but this raises the question: in which direction? After all, it is not seldom that under the veil of the battle for stabilization demands are pushed through for abandoning some of our fundamental postulates, such as socialist self-management, brotherhood and unity, and nonalignment. In his words, demands for a revision of the Constitution, the Law on Associated Labor, the introduction of a pluralist system and mixed ownership are at a basic level the aspiration for the restoration of capitalism, regardless of the democratic "clothes" in which they are draped.

Pointing to the need for society, too, to "shoulder its responsibilities" in resolving the problems arising as a consequence of the bankruptcy of work organizations and redundancies, Kosovac also turned to the theses that Yugoslavia should "be tied more closely to Europe."

This line of thinking could be welcomed, he stressed, were it not for other contexts too—and these are the abandonment of nonalignment, an independent foreign policy, and a weakening of ties to developing countries, something that would be detrimental. Cooperation with developing countries is our historical opportunity, which, especially in respect to the scope for joint action in solving global problems, we have not exploited. He cited the writing off of debts as one of these possibilities. He pointed out that we must be aware that cooperation with the highly developed countries is hampered by numerous barriers.

Miomir Grbovic spoke about the problems in the aluminum industry in our country, noting that in this branch the conditions of doing business should be secured that are enjoyed by competitors in the world. Unfortunately, promises made before now about improving its economic position have had no effect [transmission interrupted; TANJUG takes 12-16 not received]

Delegates in the SFRY Assembly are extremely pressed for time. The committees are speeding up their work in an attempt to prepare and adopt the realistic economic policy for next year. Their decisionmaking should be encouraged by today's LCY Central Committee session, Marjan Rozic stressed. It is good to discuss these questions at the LCY Central Committee session, he added. This is not because of arbitration, but because it helps create the social climate for overcoming the crisis.

Having recalled that the delegates are not just critics and a "voting machine," Rozic stressed that they wish to be the builders of solutions and decisions. These conditions should be created so that decisionmaking is fundamental and not formal. In his words, there is a vital need for a clearly defined and convincing reply, not utopia, promises, or illusions, to the question of how people will be motivated to overcome the crisis. For this reason, the 1988 economic policy cannot be just a list of measures. In addition, greater scope for the functioning of economic laws and markets must be ensured. Administrative measures will only push us into an even deeper crisis.

Temporary measures are only a "shock," which means that the therapy must be thought out to the end, Rozic noted, calling in particular for the economy to be relieved and for increased motivation for more successful work. Considering that the participation of the economy in the distribution of income is further decreasing, Rozic called for a participation of at least 60 percent in the income by next year. Thus associated labor would be encouraged for a speedier way out of the crisis and at the same time it would take into consideration the growth and channeling of accumulation, which is at present protected by administrative measures.

Rosic also warned of a serious stagnation in the development of self-management. There have been frequent questions on whether the LCY is postponing the development of self-management for another time, he said. He added that it is precisely self-management that can be a real motive for the way out of the crisis and the consolidation of equality of the nations and nationalities.

If we were to accept a presupposition that the price blockade was unnecessary and that inflation was our fate, it would mean that we are not capable of making the realization of the stabilization program more effective, and that we have no concept for overcoming the crisis. I fear that the discussion on the level of inflation, after the abolition of the price blockade that has already been manifested in some places, announces this highly unacceptable presupposition. Price blockades and other emergency measures are only a necessary step to curb the high inflation rate, Borisav Srebric stressed. Inflation must be overcome, he added, by developing a consistent and efficient model of a market-planning economy during the period of emergency measures, and by completely dismantling the inflationary way of business and development that has become dominent in our economy and economic life.

Speaking about what should be done in this period of emergency measures, Srebric stressed, in particular, the question of interest rates. A drastic reduction in interest rates within the framework of emergency measures in conjunction with changes in the credit policy is a very urgent task for the economic policy. Interest rates have so far been sucking out the entire surplus value from the economy and rapidly contributing to the expansion of a circle of loss-making organizations of associated labor. There is no theory that postulates that the price of interest rates can become a calculating element in the production cost. We have completely abandoned Marx's theory of production cost, as if we believe that the production cost can include everything we can think of. What use then is it to quote world prices? In Srebric's opinion interest rates have ruined the production cost and made the selling price grow continually.

He thus proposed a drastic reduction in interest rates and first of all the economic rate of the Yugoslav National Bank. Likewise, conditions should be created for eliminating interest as an item of calculation from the production price. Inflationary pressure would thus be converted into a real possibility for reducing prices in individual sectors of the economy.

Changes of a systemic, economic, and political character must be used by us to remove the possibility of the repetition of high inflation after the lifting of price controls. Price controls were undoubtedly imposed to allow us to construct an efficient model of the market and planned economy, the foundation of which we have in the stabilization program. Hence the thesis about some kind of gradual liberalization of prices, which even now is being put forward, is incomprehensible. The possible return to the four to five methods for establishing prices that we have had before now is no sort of positive way out of the price freeze.

There is a prevailing opinion to the effect that the resolution for next year contains few solutions that will really provide impetus for the most efficient parts of the economy to work even better, Marjan Orozen said. He asked why we constantly adapt our economic system to the average, at the expense of the successful. Capable collectives are not specific to only one part of the country, so the effects of economic measures should not be reduced to the relationship of "the developed north and the undeveloped south."

Pointing out that our economic policy, despite a desire that it should be market oriented, is still predominantly administrative, Orozen said that it seemed to him that, in our country, two economic policies in fact exist: the market and planned economic policy that the 13th LCY Congress decided in favor of, and the policy that begins from the assumption that the Yugoslav economy is still not capable of withstanding the transition to market conditions in economic dealings. If this is so, he stated, it should be clearly said just when the stances were changed, and we should clearly establish whether we adopted unrealistic decisions at the 13th congress, so that we do not cause further ideological confusion.

Noting that the phenomena of so-called new revolutionary forces of "new trade unions" actually warns the LC as to where further excessive regulation will lead, Orozen said that the LCY Central Committee cannot close its eyes to the forceful criticisms aimed both at itself and at prevailing economic strategy, from workers, economists, journalists, and scientific quarters. Orozen called for associated labor to be given the position in decisionmaking that truly belongs to it. He concluded that the struggle for the distribution of income should be taken away from meetings to the market.

The Army, as a whole, supports the economic policy measures adopted by the FEC, although some of these measures will not have a favorable effect on it, Stane Brovet said. In his opinion, it is most essential of all to achieve full political, and not merely declared, unity on the program that is to take us out of the crisis. Not even the best formulated and best written programs will be able to yield results if they do not have the broadest support from all parts of society.

We are aware of the fact that we cannot get out of the crisis without a "tightening of belts" that also affects the members of the Yugoslav People's Army, Brovet added. Because of a fall in the standard of living of certain categories among the employed, we must draw up, as soon as possible, measures for social welfare. It is essential for the political as well as for the security situation that such measures be adopted as soon as possible and applied wherever necessary.

Brovet said that the Army shares completely the fate of society. For this reason, attacks on the Yugoslav People's Army that claim that it, so to speak, takes no account of the economic situation in society, are completely unfounded. Also negated is the need for further investments in technical and material equipment, and a plan is being proposed which would have unforeseeable consequences in the case of war. Men are indeed our greatest strength, but one cannot manage today without technology. There is an agreed and verified limit for investments in this field below which we must not go if we do not want to begin to lag behind. The Army knows, Brovet said finally, that the country is in a crisis, but the path for solving this crisis should not be sought in the reduction of combat readiness. [passage omitted]

In its character, the draft resolution on the country's development next year differs from the previous ones, but a number of issues still remain unconsidered and unspecified. In addition to this view, Svetislav Dolasevic criticized the planners for failing to take note of internal debts that weigh as seriously on the country as the foreign ones and also for not outlining the sources of funds to settle these debts. The development document should have formulated measures of stimulating faster development of underdeveloped areas where, as he put it, the crisis has had most serious effects.

The Province of Kosovo is in a very difficult economic and political situation. Development has been virtually paralyzed. The province's debts are three times that of the country's average. To illustrate the point, Dolasevic noted that in the next 3 years the province is due to repay about $550 million with 40 percent of the total owed to the World Bank that does not accept reprogramming. Internal debts are also enormous. [passage omitted]

We have adopted a political jargon that is unintelligible to the people. We are churning out conclusions without previous analysis, without deadlines, and without specifying tasks. We all do this, but at the same time no one seems to be responsible for them, Dragica Zgrebec said. He was trying to explain the fate of conclusions that fail to be implemented.

In reference to the conclusions to be adopted at this session Zgrebec said that she expected her base to be critical of them. There are virtually very few people whom we can disappoint any more. We seem to be the only ones capable of disappointment. We keep asking why the workers continue to leave the LC, why there is no interest among the young to join it, why the Trade Union most of the time is preoccupied with food provisions? And we continue traveling at home and abroad, sitting in sessions, adopting conclusions binding on no one, Dragica Zgrebec said. [passage omitted]

Bosko Krunic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, informed the Central Committee about the standpoints agreed on by the Presidium at its session that took place during a break in the plenary LCY Central Committee session, concerning initiatives proposed this morning by Dusan Dragosavac and Petar Matic, immediately adopted by the Central Committee, who called on the top party body to place on the agenda of either this or its next session the issue of the political situation in the country and the role and the responsibility of the LCY leadership.

Explaining the proposal, Bosko Krunic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, said that in preparing such a session its objectives have to be clearly stated. He added that within the framework of the discussion about the role of the Central Committee, its Presidium, and working bodies in implementing the resolutions of the 13th LCY Congress the issue of the content and method of the LCY leadership's work will also be raised.

Krunic informed the Central Committee that on 15 December the Presidium will meet to discuss the content and method of its work and that a report about the session would be submitted to the Central Committee members as a proposed platform for discussion about the political situation and the work of the LCY leadership.

The Central Committee also adopted a proposal obliging the LCY Central Committee Presidium to carry out preparations for the session in the shortest possible time. Before the session, members of the Central Committee will also be presented with a report on the discussion that took place at the September joint session of the SFRY Presidency and the LCY Central Committee Presidium. It was agreed that a decision about the extent to which the session should be public and open will be made at the same session. [passage omitted]

It is necessary to analyze more specifically the effects of the latest economic measures on the country's economic system, Maksimilijan Senica said. In his view, the next year's resolution should be divided into two parts—the first dealing with the period with the federal government intervention measures in force, and the second to become valid after the intervention measures had been lifted.

Senica criticized the FEC for lack of precision and for inconsistency in implementing the measures. In his view, it is impermissible that the Yugoslav Chamber of Economy's proposals for changes in the foreign exchange laws were completely disregarded.

Toward the end of the session, Janez Zemljaric again spoke, wishing to explain certain dilemmas that had arisen in the discussion and to consider certain views that had been expressed. Since there had been doubts about the plan for rescheduling the external debt, Zemljaric said that such a program has recently gained the support of all environments and finally of the SFRY Assembly. It seeks the further reduction of interest rates and profit margins and a longer term for the repayment of the external debt.

In this period, Zemljaric stressed, we must accept paths that are possible. Any more radical demand would lead to greater difficulties. Certainly, our country will not accept conditions that impinge on our internal affairs, on our political system. Since even a moratorium was mentioned in the discussion, Zemljaric stressed that this would lead the country into an even more serious situation.

Zemljaric also said that it is planned to reschedule at least $1.3 billon in 1988, while earnings of $2.1 billion are envisaged. These resources will be used for the development and restructuring of the economy. Firm obligations have also been established so that he who gets into debt must also repay the debt.

Zemljaric also spoke about objections to the new accounting system. Corrections will be applied, which will not mean the abandonment of fundamental decisions but rather the taking into account of problems that have arisen in a part of associated labor in the application of this system. Some decisions, Zemljaric added, have shown themselves to serve no purpose and these will be changed.

According to Zemljaric the 9-month results confirm that in associated labor the process has begun of improving internal economies, and that the stocks of finished products are decreasing. As far as losses are concerned, of the total amount some 85 percent lie with those organizations of associated labor whose prices are subject to controls and which have excessive capacities.

Speaking at the end of the session, Bosko Krunic assessed that today's debate has been important for the unity of action by the LC on fateful issues. When considering what should now be focused on in its work, he stressed that we must certainly avoid a partial approach to resolving current problems and realizing established aims of development. The basic strategic standpoint of the LC and of all progressive forces in society must be based on the further development of society on the bases of socialist self-management and on the realization of the dominant role and influence of working people in making decisions about the trends in social reproduction. And this is the true path of our internal differentiation.

Krunic asked: Why is that well-known combat readiness of the LC missing, which in a very effective and well-organized way, in accordance with LC policy and basic decisions on the development of society, resolutely destroyed all those forces and their proponents who acted against socialist self-management and the basic achievements of the revolution? The LC must continue today to struggle resolutely for and to support the full affirmation by society of those programs that lead to a way out of the crisis and to the creation of more rapid development for society. Only with such programs can we mobilize, motivate, and involve the subjective forces of society and resolutely oppose various attacks on our system.

It is our task, Krunic stressed, to carry out ideological differentiation against proponents of activity and manifestations from opposing positions. There can be no vacillation or lack of tact in pursuing this. The communists must be in the forefront of the struggle for differentiation, primarily in those environments that breed such activity. This platform may appear too broad for the present serious situation. But I believe that we do not need a narrow one. Differentiation is not an end in itself. It is an imperative imposed by reality. It is work that either unites or divides us. There are too many standpoints and debates. "Let us go down to the field," Krunic said metaphorically, "to see how we can dig instead of leaning on the hoe debating which way to do the job." This is where differentiation is needed.

Our goal is to unite all the forces, to create broad unity in work, and, as regards general strategic principles, to create a democratic climate in which differences would be expressed within the LC in views about the directions of activity. The LC must accept that in our political life there are as many differences in views as is to be expected from such diversified social environments, Krunic said.

We have not created the pluralism of self-managing interests, he added, in order to make democracy richer. This pluralism is a reality to be tackled only in a democratic, equal and tolerant political climate and within the mechanism of institutions available to us.

Our priority task, Krunic said, is to curb and drastically reduce inflation and stabilize the economy on a long-term basis. For this, we need specific and complex measures to eliminate the principal causes of the high inflation rate.

The external liquidity program, Krunic cautioned, is obviously overstretched but can be achieved under appropriate external terms and agreements with the creditors. The program of measures and activities for reducing inflation and stabilizing the economy, recently adopted by the SFRY Assembly, should also serve as a guideline for the specific activity of the LC and individual LC members in consistently implementing the temporary measures in the spheres of prices, consumption, and personal income distribution. Parallel with these measures, we must also invest efforts to create, through our economic and development policy, an economic mechanism conducive to the successful transition from the present system to the normal system of economic activity and reproduction trends in line with the resolutions of the 13th congress and the long-term economic stabilization program.

In the coming period, social problems will be greater. They will be a test for our consistency in implementing program orientations. We cannot shut down one in five organizations of associated labor, Krunic said. The issues of unemployment among the young and skilled labor force cannot be left unresolved. We cannot allow the situation to continue in which such a large proportion of the population is living on minimum expenditure capacity. All these social problems will be resolved through economic development and the implementation of the entire set of economic policy measures. These are the reasons why the main task facing the LC and its Central Committee is to mobilize its rank and file for work, for personal example in work, and united action in the country's political life.

The present political crisis does not instill any certainty about the possibility of emerging from the economic crisis unless there is unity in the LC. This session is thus of exceptional importance as are the standpoints to be adopted and, in particular, the sense of responsibility and determination with which we will embark on fulfilling the exceptionally important role which the LC organs and the LC as a whole play, Krunic said, bringing his contribution to a conclusion.

Following Milanko Renovica's explanation of the proposed conclusions providing for the LC's tasks in implementing the next year's economic and development policy, supplemented by today's suggestions and recommendations, the Central Committee adopted the document. The full text of the conclusions will be made public at a later stage after the final revision.

The following also took part in the debate about the ideopolitical issues of the country's development in 1988: Marica Petrovic, Blagoja Mitanoski, Ali Sabani and Franka Obrenic. A total of 27 members took part in the debate.

Later, the Central Committee members endorsed the standpoints of the LC's action conference on the ideopolitical tasks in developing small businesses.

The LCY Central Committee resumes work tomorrow.

Ends Session 8 Dec

LD081848 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1642 GMT 8 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, 8 Dec (TANJUG)—Following 2 days of work, the 11th LCY Central Committee Session ended this evening in Belgrade. It aroused substantial interest by its agenda and by the fact that almost one third of the members took part in the debate.

Yesterday, the 1st day of the session, the Central Committee adopted conclusions providing for the communists' tasks in implementing next year's economic and development policy. The formulated tasks indicate that the LC will be expected, in all the institutions of the system, to work more efficiently and determinedly on implementing the declared goals and on helping to find a way out of the crisis.

At today's session, the Central Committee decided to convene an LCY conference in March next year. This most important gathering between the two LCY congresses will have to establish reasons behind the failure to fulfill congress resolutions and to offer a more detailed program for emerging out of the socio-economic crisis.

The Central Committee also endorsed the conclusions and standpoints concerning the responsibility of Fadilj Hodza. A conclusion reached on the basis of the several-month-long work by the working group that investigated all the accusations against Fadilj Hodza confirmed that this former Kosovo and Yugoslav high-ranking official could no longer be an LC member.

By a secret ballot, Hamdija Pozderac was dismissed from his position as member of the LCY Central Committee. The Central Committee also accepted Stanko Tomic's resignation.

Press Conference on Session

LD092248 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1413 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, December 9 (TANJUG)—A conference of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY), for which preparations were discussed by the LCY Central Committee in session yesterday, is to be held towards the end of March next, Ivan Brigic, a member of the Presidency of the LCY CC, informed the foreign press accredited to Belgrade here today.

Although it is not a statutory forum but a form in the league's work, the LCY conference is to adopt stances and conclusions concerning the LCY's tasks in efforts to have Yugoslavia find a way out of its socio-economic and political crisis which the Central Committee and its Presidency are due to implement and convert into action programs, he emphasized.

The forthcoming LCY CC session will be a part in preparations for this gathering, Brigic stated precisely. At it, the Yugoslav Communists' topmost body is to discuss methods for its own work and the work of its Presidency.

"I feel convinced that this is going to be a very open and crucial discussion to help the Central Committee and its Presidency with bettering the way and method of their work," he said.

In answering the question of whether Yugoslavia's top party circles will deal with the situation in the league in view of two LCY CC members having made suggestions. To that effect yesterday, Brigic said the he does not see a need for the Presidency and its Central Committee to discuss that matter as a separate point on the agenda. However, he announced a possibility anyhow of talking about the situation in the Republic of Serbia, in which a split developed between its party and state leading bodies this autumn, as early as at the following LCY CC session within a debate on the way and method for the party's leadership's activities.

About the stormy 8th session of Serbia's Central Committee, at which the president of Belgrade Communists, Dragisa Pavlovic, was excluded from the leadership despite support given him by Ivan Stambolic, president of Serbia's Presidency, Yugoslavia's top party circles were informed, Brigic said, as well as the party leaderships of the rest of its constituent republics and provinces.

Every discussion of the state of affairs in the LCY's individual parts makes a contribution to the LCY's unity and this has grown into a regular practice in the work of the party Presidency. In this way, the possibility is offered for affirming what is positive for the LCY as a whole, as well as for drawing attention to weaknesses with both individual LCY parts and the party as a whole, he said.

LCY Central Committee Presidency member Dusan Ckrebic summed up the debate at the Central Committee LCY session on ideological-political aspects of Yugoslavia's economic policy for 1988 and said that the recently introduced interventionist measures (a freeze of prices and partially of wages and other measures) are only a necessary respite to prepare changes in the economic system. These changes should aid the long-term stabilization of the country's economic conditions.

Ckrebic noted that the government should find solutions to absorb the pressure on the prices which will come after the prices freeze is lifted. These solutions must be sought as part of the further development of self-management, reduction of state interference into economic matters, strengthening of the influence of market laws and more independence for enterprises.

At present, the most important task is to adopt such economic measures for the following year as will curb inflation and direct the economy towards overcoming the crises.

Mojsov Chairs SFRY Presidency Session

LD100029 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1740 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—At a session today, presided over by Lazar Mojsov, the SFRY Presidency was informed by Milos Milosavljevic, vice president of the FEC, about the implementation so far of the program of measures and activities to cut inflation and stabilize the economy and of temporary intervention measures accompanying the program. The presidency was also acquainted with reports by the presidencies of the republics and autonomous provinces about the socioeconomic and political situation arising from the implementation of these measures.

The Presidency is reported to have stressed that the adopted measures should be carried out consistently and with determination in order to produce the envisaged effects, primarily, reduced inflation and increased production and exports. At the same time, the need was stressed for amending and complementing the adopted measures on the basis of the continuing monitoring of their implementation in order to ensure a consistent and comprehensive execution of the fundamental provisions of the Anti-Inflation Program.

The period in which the temporary intervention measures are planned to be in force should be maximized and used in the best possible way for preparing long-term measures of economic policy and the envisaged changes in the economic system that are expected to bring stability into economic trends once intervention measures are lifted. In addition to relevant organs in the republics and autonomous provinces, it is also necessary to engage scientific and other cadres in fulfilling the task.

The Presidency welcomed the signing of the agreement between the USSR and the United States on scrapping medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles in Europe. Assessing this agreement as a historic step toward starting the disarmament process, the Presidency expressed the conviction that it would open up prospects for a new period of negotiations on the most important problems facing the modern world, which, apart from disarmament and development in the field of detente, include development as the priority problem.

The Presidency was also acquainted with the results of the official friendly visit to our country by Mengistu Haile Mariam, president of the Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and general secretary of the Ethiopian Workers' Party Central Committee.

The talks which President Mojsov and other Yugoslav officials had with President Mengistu were assessed as a substantial continuation of the earlier dialogues between the two nonaligned countries on the promotion of bilateral relations and international questions of mutual interest. The Presidency pointed out that this visit opened up new prospects for the expansion of economic cooperation and, in particular, a broader involvement of Yugoslav work organizations in Ethiopia's economic development projects, as well as for discovering new spheres for the development of higher forms of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation on a long-term basis.

The Presidency also examined and adopted the report on the results of the official working visit to France by President Lazar Mojsov. The visit and talks with President Mitterrand, Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, and other high-ranking French officials were assessed as giving fresh impetus to traditional friendship and opening up considerable prospects for bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

The Presidency noted that an important result of the visit was the mutually expressed interest in and readiness for the expansion of all, but particularly the establishment of higher forms of economic, financial, technological cooperation, and cooperation in culture and tourism on a long-term stable basis, as well as a considerable increase in the overall level of trade.

The French side gave full support to Yugoslavia's attempts to expand and improve the basis of cooperation with the EC and for rescheduling the foreign debt on the most favorable possible terms, so that our country would be ensured a stable and speedier development and conditions created for broader economic and technological integration with Europe.

At the session, the proceedings and results of the preparations so far for the meeting of the Balkan countries' foreign ministers were also examined and positively assessed. The meeting should take place in Belgrade in early 1988 at Yugoslavia's initiative.

Further on Calls for Stambolic's Resignation

Foreign Journalists' Questions

LD092118 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2006 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, Dec 9 (TANJUG)—Why must disagreement on one particular question in the party leadership bring about the resignation of the head of a republic. Foreign journalists today asked LCY Presidency Members Dusan Ckrebic and Ivan Brigic, on the occasion of calls for the resignation of Ivan Stambolic, president of the Presidency of the Republic of Serbia.

An increasing number of calls have been coming in from the League of Communists of Serbia (LCS) basic organizations and local committees for the resignation of Stambolic, who at an LCS Central Committee meeting in September opposed the expulsion of head of the Belgrade party organization Dragisa Pavlovic from the Central Committee, and was in the minority in this respect.

Replying to a number of questions about Stambolic, Ckrebic, one of Serbia's representatives in the LCY Central Committee, said that there were two possibilities—one was for Stambolic to resign, and the other to start a regular procedure for his expulsion.

He explained that the decision on a resignation or a replacement is made by a show of hands in a republican presidency, which also elects its president. There is also a procedure in the Assembly of Serbia for the recall of a member of the Presidency from his function (the assembly elects the Presidency), but it is longer and more complicated.

The LCY is making efforts to separate the party from the state, Ckrebic said, and added that this, however, could not be done overnight, but constituted a long process.

There are functions in the state and society in which there are prominent party representatives, Ckrebic noted, adding that when such individuals come in collision with the LCY policy, and this, according to him, is precisely what has happened in Stambolic's case, then the appropriateness of their further survival in such positions usually comes under review.

Belgrade LC on Stambolic Letter

AU051735 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2100 GMT 4 Dec 87

[Text] At its session today, the Presidium of the City Committee of the LC Organization of Belgrade accepted a request from Ivan Stambolic, president of the Presidency of Serbia, that his letter to the City Committee Presidium dated 17 September be published in public information media. Adopting this decision, the City Committee Presidium this evening presented its own position on the entire case. The text of the statement, which also contains said letter, reads:

On 26 November 1987, Ivan Stambolic, president of the Presidency of Serbia, addressed to the president of the City Committee of the LC Organization of Belgrade a request that his secret letter to the City Committee Presidium of 17 September 1987 be published. This could not have been done above all because the City Committee was not in possession of Ivan Stambolic's letter. Dragisa Pavlovic brought this letter to a closed session of the City Committee Presidium, read it, and took it with him, without the letter being registered or filed in the City Committee archives.

Assessing this request by Ivan Stambolic, the City Committee Presidium believes that publishing the contents of this letter outside the context of the political moment when it was written objectively means a new attempt to affirm the stands rejected at the eighth plenum of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia.

The letter was calculated to ensure that, before a session of the City Committee Presidium session that was to deal with Dragisa Pavlovic's speech to chief editors, support of the City Committee Presidium would be forthcoming for the stances in said speech. Such support could mean a confrontation of the City Committee Presidium with the Presidium of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia and a split in the LC of Serbia, for a session of the Central Committee Presidium had already been convened with the political consequences of Dragisa Pavlovic's speech, as a point on its agenda.

This act by Ivan Stambolic, president of the Presidency of the Republic, should have been decisive in a number of compact planned actions that created the basis for disputing and questioning the positions and resolute actions by the Presidium of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia in implementing the LC policy in Kosovo, as well as in defending Comrade Tito's personage and revolutionary work.

By sending his secret letter, Ivan Stambolic with leader-like self-confidence invested his prestige and his authority as president of the Presidency of Serbia in defense of positions that were assessed, at the eighth session of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia, as being opposition to LC policy. The manner in which he did it is unprecedented in LC practice and is alien to the essence and the principles of the organization and working of workers vanguard. There has been no case of a person thus putting himself above the LC organs and organizations.

Ivan Stambolic, like any other member, cannot be called politically to account for the views he expressed at a session of the Central Committee, of which he is a member, supporting Dragisa Pavlovic's position. However, he can and should be called politically to account for an unprincipled attempt to impose his views on an LC organ, of which he is not even a member, for the purpose of confrontation with higher LC organs.

The City Committee Presidium has therefore assessed that sending a secret letter is conduct incompatible with the office of the president of the Presidency of Serbia. The City Committee supported this assessment at its session of 26 November. Discussions held at present in basic LC organizations demand that Ivan Stambolic be called to account for such conduct.

Confronted with the fact that the City Committee does not possess the letter, Stambolic sent a copy of the letter to the president of the City Committee on 26 November. The text submitted by Ivan Stambolic reads:

Respected Comrades,

Yesterday I received an invitation to a session of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia to be held tomorrow. According to the proposal of the president of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia, Comrade Dragisa Pavlovic, president of the Belgrade City Committee, is to feature on the agenda in connection with his recent speech to public information media representatives at a meeting in the City Committee.

Last night I explained my position on this proposal to Comrade Milosevic, president of the Central Committee, and I shall repeat it at the session of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia. This morning I was informed that the City Committee Presidium will today discuss the political consequences of the attacks on the City Committee President in some public information media, also occasioned by the said speech.

I have been elected to the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia as a delegate of the Belgrade party organization, and since the president of the Belgrade City Committee is involved, I wish to present my views to you, too.

First, I believe that the basic positions expounded by Comrade Dragisa Pavlovic are in conformity with the general line of the LCY and the demands of the present-day tasks and the struggle of the LC of Serbia.

Second, since Comrade Tito's accession to the head of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, which is to say in the past 50 years, no communist has been called to account for advocating and fighting for the positions contained in the City Committee president's speech.

Third, I think that this precedent may have fatal consequences for the Belgrade LC organization, the LC of Serbia, and the LCY.

Fourth, because of all this, as well as because of the tremendous responsibility of everyone of us, I will propose an urgent convening of a session of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia, so that this matter may be discussed and in this way the unforeseeable consequences for the unity of the LC may be forestalled.

With comradely greetings,

[signed] Ivan Stambolic,

Member of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia.

The Presidium notes that this letter by Ivan Stambolic is not identical to the letter read by Dragisa Pavlovic on 17 September. This includes the fact that in the previous letter, the signatory was identified as president of the Presidency of Serbia, and in this letter as a member of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia. Stambolic publicly demonstrated his bureaucratic inclination to present himself from the position of his office at the eighth plenum, by tastelessly comparing his position to the City Committee with the position of Nikola Ljubicic, member of the SFRY Presidency, to the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia, forgetting that even at the Central Committee session Nikola Ljubicic worked for the sake of unity, but Ivan Stambolic worked for the sake of wrecking the LC.

Ivan Stambolic first indulged in his practice of sending a secret letter for the purpose of exerting pressure from office authority positions, and then further attempted to delude the public by dispatching this second letter. Endeavoring to turn the attention of the public to the content of this letter, he tried to divert the criticism, directed at him for bureaucratic conduct, privatization of the cadre policy, and calculating hesitation in implementing the Kosovo decisions, in another direction.

One can clearly see from this that asking the City Committee Presidium, after 2 and 1/2 months, to publish a letter, which only he must have been known about and that the City Committee did not possess, is only a cloak for introducing confusion and for broaching new questions, with the intention to make the LC actions more difficult.

The question arises of why Ivan Stambolic has decided to ask that his secret letter be published now in this version, particularly since, if he wanted to do so, he could have made it accessible to the public at the eighth Central Committee session that took place in front of the eyes of the public, and at which his conduct and method of sending a secret letter were exposed to criticism by Central Committee members. The same could have been done at the public session of the City Committee Presidium on 17 September.

Ivan Stambolic's request that the letter be published precisely at the moment when the public at large expects his resignation from the office of the president of the Presidency of Serbia, on the basis of wide criticism at the LC grass roots, constitutes only a part of his overall activities after the eighth session that follow a line of covert opposition to the conclusions of the session.

In the past 2 and 1/2 months, Ivan Stambolic has failed to use any opportunity to support and to assist the LC in implementing the conclusions of the eighth session of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia. Taken as a whole, it is not a matter solely of the letter and its content, nor of what he advocated at the eighth session, but it is a matter of a continuous conduct incongruous with the practice and relations in the LC.

The City Committee Presidium believes that some causes of our social, economic, and obviously moral crises should certainly be searched for in such occurrences and behavior.

In conclusion, the Presidium stresses that with the request that his letter be published, Ivan Stambolic assumed all the responsibility for the political consequences that arise from it, particularly since the City Committee Presidium notes with regret that in this grave economic, social, and political situation, Ivan Stambolic's request and conduct has put it in a position when it must again deal with problems on which it had taken clear positions and on which it considers the discussion completed.

This request by Ivan Stambolic is a new act of pressure and a new political factor. Requesting the publication of the letter, without any dissociation with the views that were rejected and denounced at the eighth plenum, in the City Committee, and in LC communal and basic organizations, Ivan Stambolic puts himself in a situation when the question arises of his ideopolitical responsibility, the responsibility of an LC member at that.

Mikulic on 'Vacillations' on Inflation Program

AU100822 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 18 Nov 87 p 2

[Jovan Radovanovic article: "The Sword of Bargaining"]

[Text] Addressing the workers of the Sarajevo Famos plant, Branko Mikulic said that the intervention measures contained in the FEC's Anti-Inflation Program should have been introduced in 1983. The economic situation has worsened during the last 4 years of vacillations, and this represents one of the main reasons that the radical measures are more painful and are causing problems.

We are indeed paying an expensive price for the 4 years of hesitation, if one counts the time lost since the "plebiscite-like adoption of the Long-Term Economic Stabilization Program up to this day." Can the new Anti-Inflation Program, for which the FEC has somehow managed to obtain the support of the SFRY Assembly delegates, be labeled radical, and has it been criticized so fiercely because of its own sharpness?

Without answering this question it is clear, however, that it is unfortunately again a case of postponing real, profound, and very necessary changes in the economic system.

The conclusions, which the Federal Chamber adopted by a majority vote, state among other things: "In its further work on the preparations of acts and measures that will be proposed with the aim of implementing and making this program operational, particularly as far as proposing economic policies for next year is concerned, the FEC will have to take into account proposals and suggestions made by the assemblies of the socialist republics and socialist autonomous provinces as well as opinions expressed in the discussion held in the SFRY Assembly working bodies and in reports and discussion in the SFRY Assembly chambers." Persuading the delegates to accept this program, Janez Zemljaric, vice president of the FEC, pointed out that adopting the program will not prejudge discussions on the measures, which would be proposed on the basis of this document!

The cited conclusion and Zemljaric's "defense" of the program show in fact that the agreement on some essential points of the Anti-Inflation Program could not be reached. And we know why. The Slovene delegation and the majority of the Croatian delegation were firmly against it. In a way, the adoption of the conclusions in the SFRY Assembly showed the public a clear 6:2 balance of power and thus made the hidden Yugoslav "north-south" confrontation more obvious.

Since the support for the government program could not be fully ensured through arguments based on economic facts and factors, it was switched to the political field, according to our good old custom. It is probably for this reason that, instead of a program whose foundations would be predominantly professionally economic, we have, in fact, finally obtained a compromise political platform (on the basis of which future anti-inflation moves will be proposed) that can be acceptable even to those who voted against it.

How is this possible? The answer is simple: considering that this platform is not merely an anti-inflation program, it is sufficiently elastic and "adaptable" for all. As an actual conglomerate, it makes it possible for everybody to invoke it, even those who were against the second version of the Anti-Inflation Program as well, considering it insufficient, to some extent with good reason.

Some people think that the main reasons used by our developed "north" in rejecting the offered program are not that some of the measures would particularly hurt final producers, for very considerable reserves about the program were also expressed in the "poor south," which at first sight would gain something this time. The reasons for both were clear and similar: the program is insufficient. Even if it were fully implemented, it would not essentially change the situation in many respects.

The conclusion of the SFRY Assembly—which leaves a free hand to the republics and provinces so that they may intervene in the implementation of any particular measure, which means that they may also block those that they do not like—has postponed once again our confrontation with some of the biggest unresolved problems and with what divides us in this. Under unfavorable circumstances, this may also indicate our continued unreadiness to enter into deeper economic as well as political changes.

At the press conference 2 days ago, the FEC members pointed out that economic reforms could not be undertaken without all society being ready for them, without "unanimous support from all over the country."

This statement is difficult to dispute, but one must realize that considering the present state of affairs, even the best document would struggle to receive "unanimous support." The system also contains certain provisions that enable all its sectors to discover whether their specific interests have been affected and, without taking seriously considering joint interests, block every offered solution. Since we are in a more than difficult social and economic situation, the policy has mainly been to go for the sufficiently "round" solutions that would more or less suit everybody. These solutions have not been disturbing the balance of power, but they have not solved problems either.

This was perhaps the practice up until now. Today the room for such maneuvers has been narrowed. There is no such program for solving the crisis from which we would, individually, only be lightly hurt, but jointly, as the whole country, completely lose. There is no program that would allow us to live and work "after" the period in which the measures are supposed to work in the same way as "before" their introduction: on a somewhat lower level, but basically in the same, unproductive way, lacking both the market and real economic criteria.

Therefore—despite all our bad experiences—we should believe that the 6-month break will be used to discuss all those unpleasant issues concerning the country's economic and political crisis because it would not be good to postpone the key issues for some other time again. Unfortunately, nothing better can be done.

The longer we postpone facing up to the cruel fact that we have been working under administrative-state restraints for 40 years and that we are not prepared psychologically, materially, organizationally, or in terms of the cadre for a healthy market economy—as a Slovene delegate pointed out in the Assembly debate—the more strongly we will be hit by the strength of this fact's global "encirclement," which we cannot escape.

The current situation must certainly be overcome and therefore it is probably good that the SFRY Assembly adopted the conclusion according to which the Anti-Inflation Program must be adopted in conjunction with the proposals and suggestions made by the republican and provincial assemblies. But this could mean that adopting every additional individual anti-inflationary measure will be the subject of another discussion and that a Damoclean Sword of veto will hang over every measure. What has been happening should not happen this time—that is, that the accord-reaching process turns into an indefinite bargaining and unprincipled dealing at the expense of joint interests and the country's future.

LCY Statements on Fadilj Hodza Examined

Bor LC 'Fails to Accept' Remarks

AU092004 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] The industrial town of Bor offers unreserved support to the positions of the eighth session of the LC Central Committee of Serbia, but also fails to accept some statements made at yesterday's session of the LCY Central Committee concerning Fadilj Hodza's behavior and activity. By the way, Bor will carry out differentiation until the end, primarily through replacing incapable cadres. This was said at the session of the Bor LC Communal Committee, which was held this evening and in which Jurij Bajec, member of the Central Committee Presidium of the LC of Serbia, also participated.

Nis LC Disagrees With Speeches

AU092006 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] At its session held today, the Presidium of the Nis Intercommunal LC Conference expressed unanimous disagreement with the speeches by individual members of the Presidium and the Central Committee of the LCY made at the Central Committee session yesterday. Those speeches were deemed contrary to the unanimous position of the LCY Central Committee Presidium concerning the responsibility of Fadilj Hodza. These complaints were also caused by the reaction of some basic LC organizations in Nis to the course of yesterday's session of the LCY Central Committee.

Ckrebic, Brigic Press Conference

LD100006 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1915 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, Dec 9 (TANJUG)—Former Yugoslav Vice-President Fadilj Hodza, an ethnic Albanian, is trying to use all possible ways to lessen or shift his responsibility for the strengthening of Albanian nationalism and separatism in the Yugoslav Kosovo Province, which erupted in the 1981 counter-revolution attempt, on to the then top collective leaderships of Kosovo, the Republic of Serbia and Yugoslavia.

League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) Central Committee Presidency members Ivan Brigic and Dusan Ckrebic told a press conference for foreign journalists here today that in his defence Hodza cited the late President Tito, his closest associate Edvard Kardelj (died in 1979) and other former high officials—members of the Yugoslav state or party presidency, claiming that they did not criticise his political views and actions.

Hodza, (?the most) prominent ethnic Albanian high official in Yugoslavia in the last 40 years, has already been expelled from the council of the federation, while the LCY Central Committee yesterday, after a lengthy and at times heated discussion, accepted a report on Hodza's responsibility and proposed his expulsion from the LCY as well.

Ivan Brigic, also a member of the LCY Central Committee working group whose task was to determine Hodza's responsibility, said that the group met with Hodza on two occasions (lasting three and seven hours respectively). He was given opportunity to speak about everything. "The talks and the prevailing attitude were correct, as befits our party," Brigic said.

He said that the working group especially looked closely into Hodza's responsibility for everything that took place in Kosovo in the 1968-1981 period. Hodza refused to accept his personal responsibility and attempted to shift it on to other collective bodies. It is quite logical, however, that a member of a collective body bears both collective and individual responsibility, Brigic said.

Asked whether other high officials, who were members of the collective bodies together with Hodza, would come up for discussion, Ckrebic said that the Yugoslav leadership did not intend to engage in an "indefinite hunt for the culprits" for the situation in Kosovo.

Ckrebic said that the determining of responsibility was seven years overdue and that now matters were more or less finished. At one point it is necessary to stop since there are more pressing matters to be settled and we will let ourselves be forced by any one in this direction any longer, Ckrebic said adding that except in cases of criminal responsibility there would be no processes or trials in relation to Kosovo at all.

The two officials confirmed that Hodza had sent a letter to the LCY Central Committee and that it had been distributed to its members. Brigic said there were no obstacles for Hodza to publish the letter, if he wished so.

Veterans Presidium Disowns Belgrade Appeal

AU032119 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 3 Dec 87

[Excerpts] A session of the Presidium of the Federal Committee of the Yugoslav Veterans Federation was devoted to preparing for public discussion of the draft amendments to the SFRY Constitution in the veterans organization. [passage omitted]

The Presidium of the Federal Committee of the Yugoslav Veterans Federation at its session today did not accept an appeal by the City Committee of the Belgrade Veterans Federation addressed to veterans organizations and veterans of the National Liberation War. The appeal contains dramatic assessments of the situation in the country, and proposes among other things that an extraordinary LCY Congress be convened and a referendum on disputed and alternative proposals on constitutional amendments be held.

Having great understanding for the dissatisfaction felt not only by veterans of the Belgrade organization but also by those of the entire country, the members of the Presidium did not accept the method of the City Committee that is interpreted as an expression of dissatisfaction toward the republican and federal committees of the veterans organization. Some members called its action a manipulation of the members of the veterans organization who were not consulted. But an appeal was made on their behalf to all the veterans of the country.

While having respect for the Belgrade organization, which consists of veterans from all parts of the country, many people's heroes, and high Army officers, it was said that this does not give the organization the right to consider itself elitist and to avoid not only the normal procedure in the veterans organizations, but all the institutions of the system.

Serious remarks were also made concerning the very substance of the appeal. It was said, for instance, that the strengthening of brotherhood and unity cannot be discussed without simultaneously stressing the equality of peoples and nationalities. It was proposed that the proposal of the City Committee of the Belgrade Veterans Federation be discussed in the Presidium of the republican organization.

Concluding the discussion, Bogdan Pecotic said that the Belgrade organization appeal is not a document that could serve as a basis for a joint organized action by veterans. Despite the critical remarks, it was said, the leaderships of the veterans organization must pay more attention to the veterans' dissatisfaction with the situation in the country and must much more resolutely initiate actions for solving the present problems through the institutions of the system.

TU Council Warns of Worker Dissatisfaction

LD100038 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1733 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Excerpts] Zagreb, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—Without bringing into question the Anti-Inflation Program, the trade unions must have an active attitude toward certain of its solutions that could give rise to far-reaching negative consequences, the dissatisfaction of workers and reduced motivation for stabilization efforts. This was stressed by Ivo Bilandzija, president of the Croat Trade Union Federation Council, at today's session of the Council Presidium. The Presidium examined information on the influence of current measures of economic policy on the position of the economy and social activities in this republic.

In the debate, in which demands for a more militant and involved trade union movement prevailed, it was stressed that there should be an examination of administrative injustices committed in legal solutions that should be changed for the better. At the same time, the trade unions should encourage activities in associated labor organizations aimed at seeking internal reserves and creating a climate for the implementation of the Anti-Inflation Program.

An initial examination of the intervention measures, Presidium Member Bernardo Jurlin stressed, indicates that at the level of the republic there will not be any major negative shifts in the realization of total earnings, or income. However, in a number of groups, particularly those that are export-oriented, there will be serious disturbances because of high input costs with possible serious social consequences. [passage omitted]

An indication of possible social consequences, it was stressed, is the fact that the expenses of a family of four in November had already exceeded 390,000 dinars, of which 84 percent goes on basic existential needs. The latest measures, it is estimated, will cause a fall in real personal incomes in the republic of about 19 percent, and in the first 9 months of this year real earnings in the economy have already fallen by 6.9 percent in comparison with the average for 1986. Current losses in business activities are being shown by 611 organizations employing more than 180,000 workers.

The dissatisfaction of workers, it was warned, is increasingly pronounced. In the first 10 months of the year in Croatia, 315 work stoppages were recorded, which are also increasingly frequently going "beyond the factory gates." There are increasingly strident demands and questions about the personal incomes of officials employed in the trade unions, organs of administration, the self-managing communities of interest, and about privileges in society, and the lack of trust in higher organs is increasing. [passage omitted]

'Excesses' Over Use of Flags in Kosovo Noted

LD060039 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2100 GMT 5 Dec 87

[Text] As could have been predicted, the hoisting of the new flags of the Albanian and Turkish minorities in Kosovo on Republic Day, did not take place without excesses and provocations. So far it is known that there were six instances of taking down, throwing away, or tearing up state, party, and Serbian flags. About 10 cases of the disappearance, taking down, and other forms of attack on the new flags of the Albanian nationality were also recorded. There were also cases of opposition to the hoisting of these flags, as a result of which several individuals were given party or administrative punishments. A certain amount of diversity was noticeable here. On many buildings where it was compulsory to hang flags, not all of them were hoisted. Nowhere were state or republican flags missing, but there were many cases of the failure to hoist Albanian and Turkish flags. This can be explained by the lack of a sufficient supply of these flags—in their new form—because so many flags could not be manufactured in a short time.

10 'Marxist-Leninists of Kosovo' Sentenced

AU301821 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 27 Nov 87 p 6

[A.M. report: "Diabolical Aims Brought to Light"]

[Text] The second trial of a group of 10 defendants, members of the illegal. hostile organization "Marxist-Leninists of Kosovo," has concluded after two sessions. Metush Latifi, head of the judicial bench, informed us yesterday that all 10 were pronounced guilty, the first eight for the criminal act of conspiracy for hostile activity, and the last two for hostile propaganda.

The second trial reduced the sentences of Pristina District Court against some of the accused by a few months.

Pajazit Jashari from Podujevo, leader of the illegal organization "Marxist-Leninists of Kosovo," and Fail Lepaja, also from Podujevo, were each sentenced to 11 years imprisonment. Sadik Buja from the village of Bujance was sentenced to 9 years. These are the same sentences as were pronounced in June of last year. Fitim Selimi from Banula was sentenced to 2 years (as against an earlier sentence of 2 years and 6 months); Ramadan Emini from Urosevac was sentenced to 5 years, and Hazir Gashi, also from Urosevac, was sentenced to 16 months (instead of 2 years); Agim Gashi from the village of Oklap, near Suva Reka, was sentenced to 21 months (instead of 2 years and 6 months), and Besim Baraliu from Bukos, near Suva Reka, was sentenced to 8 years. All these were pronounced guilty under Article 136, paragraphs 1 and 2 and Article 114 of the SFRY Penal Code. Nazmi Llapashtica from the village of Duzi, near Podujevo, was sentenced to 18 months, and Hetem Ajeti from the village of Svecel was sentenced to 1 year's imprisonment. These two were pronounced guilty under Article 133 of the Penal Code.

In this second trial, the accused, as before, concentrated on secondary matters, and not the charges against them. The diabolical aims of this group that acted from positions of Albanian nationalism and irredentism were brought to light. The accused said they were not "against the brotherhood, unity, and togetherness of our peoples and nationalities," and that all their activities and meetings were "accidental," or "out of curiosity." Some of their statements were paradoxical. In an apartment in the Dragodan district of Pristina where three of the accused lived, a search discovered propaganda material with hostile content (illegal pamphlets such as ZERI I KOSOVES, KOMUNIKATA, books published in the People's Socialist Republic of Albania spewing poison against our political and legal system, typewriters, pistols, bombs, etc).

The accused, even though they claimed in their defense that they were "not members of the group," and that "they had sworn no oath," revealed their attitudes by supporting the reactionary slogan, "Kosovo—Republic."

6 More 'Albanian Separatists' Charged

LD091849 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1334 GMT 9 Dec 87

[Text] Belgrade, December 9 (TANJUG)—The September 3 crime in which a soldier killed four and wounded several other soldiers in the Paracin garrison was today proved to be an organised act of Albanian separatists.

The investigation established that killer Aziz Kelmendi, of Albanian nationality, had help in the barracks where the crime was committed.

The military prosecutor today announced that charges had been instigated against six more soldiers also of Albanian nationality.

The military prosecutors' statement says that the six were charged because they knew that Kelmendi was a nationalist and had expressed hatred towards members of other nationalities.

The investigation established that the six had met with Kelmendi the day before the killings and agreed to help him commit the crime and escape.